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29 JUN 1971
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BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December

1969



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Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended 31st December

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CONTENTS

	Page
Staff	3
REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	3
Introductory Letter	4
Summary of General Statistics	7
Extracts from Vital Statistics	7
Live Births	7
Still Births	7
Deaths	9
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	9
Infant Mortality	9
Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)	10
Deaths (all ages)	10
Glamorgan (Administrative County)—Vital Statistics, 1966	10A
Classification of Deaths (Registrar General)	11
Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases	13
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	13
Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination	14
Other Vaccinations	14
Tuberculosis Statistics	14
General Provisions of Health Services	16
Domiciliary Midwifery Service	16
Domiciliary Nursing Service	16
Medical Comforts	16
Night Sitter-in Service	16
Home Help Services	16
Chiropody Service	16
Clinic Services	17
Health Visitors	17
National Assistance Act, 1948	17
Housing	17
Water Supplies	19
General Information	20
Education	20
Children's Department	20
Juvenile Court	20
Welfare Services (Part III Accommodation)	20
Employment of Disabled Persons	21
Industrial Development	21
REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	28
Introductory Letter	31
General Inspection of District Number and Classification	32
Housing Inspections (Houses unfit, Houses rendered fit)	33
Number of Nuisances discovered and Notices served	33
Record of work done following the services of Notices	34
Slaughtering Facilities and Meat Inspection	34
Diseased and Unsound Meat condemned at the abattoir	37
Unsound and unwholesome food condemned within the Borough	38
Annual Slaughtering Returns	41
Food submitted for analysis (Quality, description and labelling)	42
Adulterated samples	42
Preservatives in Food	43
Sale of Milk Regulations	45
Registered Premises Food and Drugs Act, 1955	45
Water Samples	46
Food Hygiene	47
Bacteriological Sampling of Ice-Cream	48
Daily Recordings of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide	48
Atmospheric Pollution General Information	49
Installation and Prior Approval of new Furnaces	49
Control of Chimney Heights	49
Alkali Works	50
Records of deposited Dust, Soot, etc.	52
Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution—Data	52
Records of Sulphur Dioxide Pollution	53
Rainfall Data	53
Sunshine Data	54
Chimney Stacks under supervision of Alkali Inspector and Local Authority.....	55
Factories	55
Rodent Control	56
Noise Abatement	57
Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964	57
Pet Animals Act, 1951	57
Riding Establishments Act, 1964	57
Common Lodging Houses	57
Offensive Trades	57
Land Charges Act, 1925	57
Rent Act, 1957	57
Inspection of Cinemas	58
Inspection of Council Houses	58
Housing Act Activities	59
Staff	60
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	62
Magisterial Court Proceedings	62
New Legislation	63

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.

D. H. J. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health, Glyncoirwg Urban District Council and Divisional Medical Officer, Glamorgan County Council).

Chief Public Health Inspector.

L. J. CARTER (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector). Fellow Association of Public Health Inspectors.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

I. G. HEYCOCK (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

Senior District Public Health Inspector.

L. MORGAN (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

W. CORNELIUS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

K. D. RATTENBURY (C.P.H.I.E.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health, Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

J. L. COOMBS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

J. G. ROWLANDS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

K. SNOOK (Diploma Public Health Inspectors Examination Board. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

Student Public Health Inspectors.

Miss K. SCRUTON (Terminated 30/11/69)

K. CLEMENT.

G. ELMS

M. MURPHY (appointed 12/9/69)

Administrative Assistant.

D. CROWLEY

Typists.

Mrs. S. GEORGE (Senior)

Miss C. FRANCIS (Terminated 26/5/69)

Miss E. PEARSON (Appointed 27/5/69)

Drain Tester and Disinfecter.

L. GEORGE.

Rodent Operators.

T. D. REES (Senior).

P. HUGHES.

K. MAINWARING.

J. WILLIAMS (appointed 1/9/69)

D. REES (appointed 1/9/69)

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1969

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1969. This report has been prepared in accordance with Circular 1/70 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health.

In the sections dealing with General Statistics your attention is drawn to a further decrease in the birth rate, a trend which I mentioned in my Annual Report for 1968. The rise in the illegitimate birth rate has continued, it is now 7% of the total live births. The stillbirth rate has dropped slightly again this year.

The vast majority of confinements now take place in hospital, this year 96% of all live births have taken place in hospital. This is the highest percentage of such confinements recorded for this borough. Most Port Talbot mothers are confined at Neath General Hospital, although a few mothers from the eastern half of the borough still continue to be confined at Bridgend General Hospital. As members will know, a new maternity block of 93 beds is in the course of construction at Neath General Hospital and it is anticipated that this will facilitate the confinement of all expectant mothers from the borough at this hospital as soon as it is opened.

Last year I reported an extension of the cervical cytology arrangements within the borough and these arrangements have continued satisfactorily during 1969.

Although I am informed by my colleagues in neighbouring areas that cases of cervical cancer have come to light as a result of their work I am very pleased to be able to report this year again that no cases of cancer have been discovered in Port Talbot. A number of minor conditions have come to light and have been referred to their own family doctors for treatment.

There was no significant change in the crude death rate for 1969 and I am glad to say that there was a drop in the peri-natal mortality rate. An analysis of the causes of deaths of infants showed a high proportion to be due to prematurity whilst three babies who did not survive beyond the first week were found to have serious congenital abnormalities.

I am somewhat perturbed to have to report a continuing drop in the numbers of children being immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. It was suggested that the reduced attendances at the Local Health Authority clinics were due to parents taking their children for immunisations by their own general practitioners but unfortunately the returns do not bear this out and the number of general practitioners who are actively engaged in this valuable preventive work is very limited. I am pleased, however, to be able to say that our booster vaccinations in schools carried out by our own full-time staff and the B.C.G. vaccination programme carried out in the comprehensive schools in the borough have been maintained at their high and satisfactory level.

In the housing field there has, unfortunately, been a drop in the total number of new units completed by the Borough Council, although this is compensated for in some measure in the private sector. As I will be commenting later in the body of the report much of the housing allocations made by your Housing Manager have been re-lets.

The Welfare Services Department of the County Council were pleased to open yet another Welfare Services Hostel in the borough, this being "Min-yr-Afan" at Cwmafan. Twelve admissions from borough residents being effected into this new Home during the year.

The Crematorium under the joint authorities of Port Talbot, Glyncoirwg, Maesteg and Porthcawl was opened by the Secretary of State, The Rt. Hon. Mr. George Thomas and from 1st May until 31st December, 509 cremations were authorised by me in my capacity as Medical Referee to the Joint Authorities.

The Borough Council has been actively engaged in preparing, in conjunction with the Neath Borough and Neath Rural District, for a new outfall sewer at the western end of the borough. This new sewer when completed will discharge sewage $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles out of the Swansea Bay and will satisfy the needs of the new industrial development at the western end of the borough as well as the considerable housing development in Aberavon between Baglan Moors and the Baglan area itself. With the new development on the Kenfig Industrial Estate an extension from that estate towards the joint outfall sewer on Morfa Beach is to take place and when this has been completed a new length of sewer below high water mark will be constructed to replace the existing joint outfall.

The improvements in the borough's water supply have been maintained but a completely satisfactory and constant pressure level will not become possible until the Llyn Briana scheme goes into production. At the present time the main pipe-lines from Nantgarredig on the River Towy in Carmarthenshire to Velindre, Swansea and thence to Port Talbot are under construction.

The Glamorgan County Council has approved the principle of fluoridation of water supplies and I am pleased to be able to record that you have supported this. Its implementation will have to be considered further as and when the Water Board turns on its mains into the borough from the major water scheme.

In the section concerned with industrial development I am highlighting the B.P. Chemicals (U.K.) Limited and the new deep water tidal harbour. I would like to thank the management of both for supplying me with the necessary material for inclusion in this report.

Before concluding the opening remarks to this Annual Report, which, incidentally is the eighteenth which I have had the privilege in presenting to you, I would like to thank all members of Council, Chairman of mine and allied Committees and all my colleagues on the staff for their co-operation during the period under review. I would like to pay a special tribute on this occasion to Mr. L. J. Carter, the Chief Public Health Inspector, who has worked side by side with me in the Public Health Department, for his loyalty and consideration in all matters pertaining to the health and wellbeing of the community. Mr. Carter retires from the service of the Authority in July, 1970, and I would like to wish him and his wife good health to enjoy a long and well deserved retirement.

I was happy to recommend for your consideration the name of Mr. I. G. Heycock, the deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, to accept the mantle of responsibilities laid down by Mr. Carter and I am very pleased that Council saw fit to accept my recommendation.

I look forward to a long and happy association with Mr. Heycock and I wish him, and the other members of the Department's staff who have been advanced, well and success in their new offices.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. H. J. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Park House,
Theodore Road,
Port Talbot.

Telephone Port Talbot 2137

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1969

Area of Borough (inclusive of foreshore)	23,444 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimated mid-year, 1969)	50,970
Rateable value at 31st March, 1969	£4,244,463
Product of Penny Rate for year ended 31st March, 1969	£18,268
Rainfall in inches in the Borough	40.83
Number of Houses erected in 1969	144
(i) By Local Authority	33
(ii) By other Bodies or Persons	111
Number of Improvement Grants made during 1969:	
(a) Discretionary	63)
(b) Standard	21)
	Total 84
Number of houses connected to Mains Water Supply	17,069
Number of houses supplied from standpipes	None
Number of properties supplied from:	
(a) Mid-Glamorgan Water Board	12
(b) Neath Borough	None

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births.

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	346	313	659
Illegitimate	22	25	47
Total number of live births	368	338	706

	Crude	Adjusted
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	13.9	13.8
Live birth rate for England and Wales	16.3	—

Illegitimate Live Births. Per cent of total Live Births	7
---	---

Still Births.

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	9	4	13
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total number of Stillbirths	9	4	13

Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths	18
Total number of Live and Stillbirths	719

The following table is of interest:—

Number of live births at home in the Borough	27
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Neath General Hospital	601
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Bridgend General and other hospitals	78

Of all live births 96% occurred in hospital. In 1968 the percentage of births in hospital was 78 and in 1967, 70.

Hospital Bed Allocations.

The allocation of non-emergency hospital maternity beds is made in this area by me, in my capacity as Divisional Medical Officer for the Local Health Authority. As Secretary of the Bro Morgannwg Hospital Management Committee area Maternity Liaison Committee, I am happy to say that a very close and cordial relationship exists between the Hospital, Local Health Authority and General Practitioner Maternity services. In this area, as also in the Neath and District Health Division, the domiciliary assessment and the allocation of beds is made by the Medical Officer of Health. Regular co-ordination meetings with the Hospital Consultants, maternity staffs and General Practitioners are held and the bed allocation situation is kept under constant review.

Early discharge at forty-eight hours is now adopted in an increasing proportion of cases but where the obstetric, clinical or domiciliary conditions demand it, five days or ten days stays are arranged. No patient is discharged from hospital until her condition and that of the new-born infant are satisfactory and I am advised in order that appropriate domiciliary after-car can be arranged.

Comparison of Crude Blrth Rate with National Rate.

The Crude Birth Rate for the Borough can be seen from the following chart.

Year	Live Births	Crude Rate per 1,000	Crude Rate (England & Wales)
1960	1,034	21.17	17.1
1961	911	18.21	17.4
1962	977	19.10	18.2
1963	967	18.77	18.2
1964	987	19.07	18.4
1965	892	17.22	17.05
1966	792	15.29	17.7
1967	823	15.9	17.2
1968	756	14.7	16.9
1969	706	13.9	16.3

Applicatlons for Non-Emergency Hospital Beds

Patients due to be confined during	1967.		1968.		1969.	
	Applications Received.	Refused.	Applications Received.	Refused.	Applications Received.	Refused.
January	75	4	64	—	87	—
February	71	7	67	—	70	—
March	80	—	76	—	66	—
April	70	1	52	—	61	—
May	67	2	75	—	80	—
June	67	5	68	—	86	—
July	73	2	55	1	55	—
August	68	5	64	—	56	—
September	68	1	80	—	65	—
October	74	7	67	—	89	—
November	69	—	76	—	68	—
December	79	2	64	—	72	—

Deaths.

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 378, Female 277) 655
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:

Crude 12.9; Adjusted 17.2
Death rate for England and Wales Crude 11.9

The Crude death rate for the past ten years is summarised below:—

1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
10.9	10.4	11.31	11.31	11.10.	9.82	9.78	10.18	11.50	10.07

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during 1969.

Infant Mortality.

Neonatal deaths—11.

Neonatal death rate per 1,000 live births—16.

	One day— One week	One week— One month—
Respiratory failure. Prematurity	1	—
Prematurity leading to acute respiratory distress	1	—
Intestinal obstruction. Imperforate Anus. Dextro Cardia	1	—
Prematurity respiratory distress syndrome	1	—
Prematurity	2	—
Prematurity. Metabolic Acidosis	2	—
Respiratory failure, prematurity. Patent ductus arteriosus. Meconium ileus	1	—
Pulmonary collapse due to prematurity	1	—
Right ventricular failure. Aberrant pulmonary artery	—	1
Deaths during one month to one year—2.		
Acute respiratory infection		1
Acute bronchiolitis		1

1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
18.0	22.5	17.0	17.68	22.42	25.33	22.75	20.47	20.86	36.75

Infant Mortality

From these figures it will be seen that the casualty rate is highest in the first week of life—prematurity being given as the cause of failure to survive in the majority of instances. Three babies were found to have congenital abnormalities affecting the heart or circulatory system of which one had additional abnormality of the digestive tract.

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths (under 1 year)	13
Rate per 1,000 total live births	18
Legitimate infant deaths	12
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	18
Illegitimate infant deaths	1

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Total neo-natal deaths (under 4 weeks)	11
Rate per 1,000 total live births	16

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Total neo-natal deaths (under 1 week)	10
Rate per 1,000 total live births	14

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

Total still-births and deaths under 1 week (combined)	23
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	32

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion).

Number of deaths	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	0

Death (all Ages).

The main causes of death in the Borough during 1969 were—

1. Cardiovascular conditions	222
2. Cancers of various kinds	123
3. Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	107
4. Accidents	14

There were 24 deaths due to cancer of the lung, 18 amongst males and 6 amongst females.

This compares with: 19 deaths (17males, 2 females) in 1968).

Lung Cancer

In my last Annual Report, I drew attention to the deaths from Lung Cancer. The male deaths have crept up by one but the female deaths are three times as high as last year. Strenuous efforts are being made both nationally and at local level to discourage cigarette smoking but I have grave doubts as to whether the warning is being heeded.

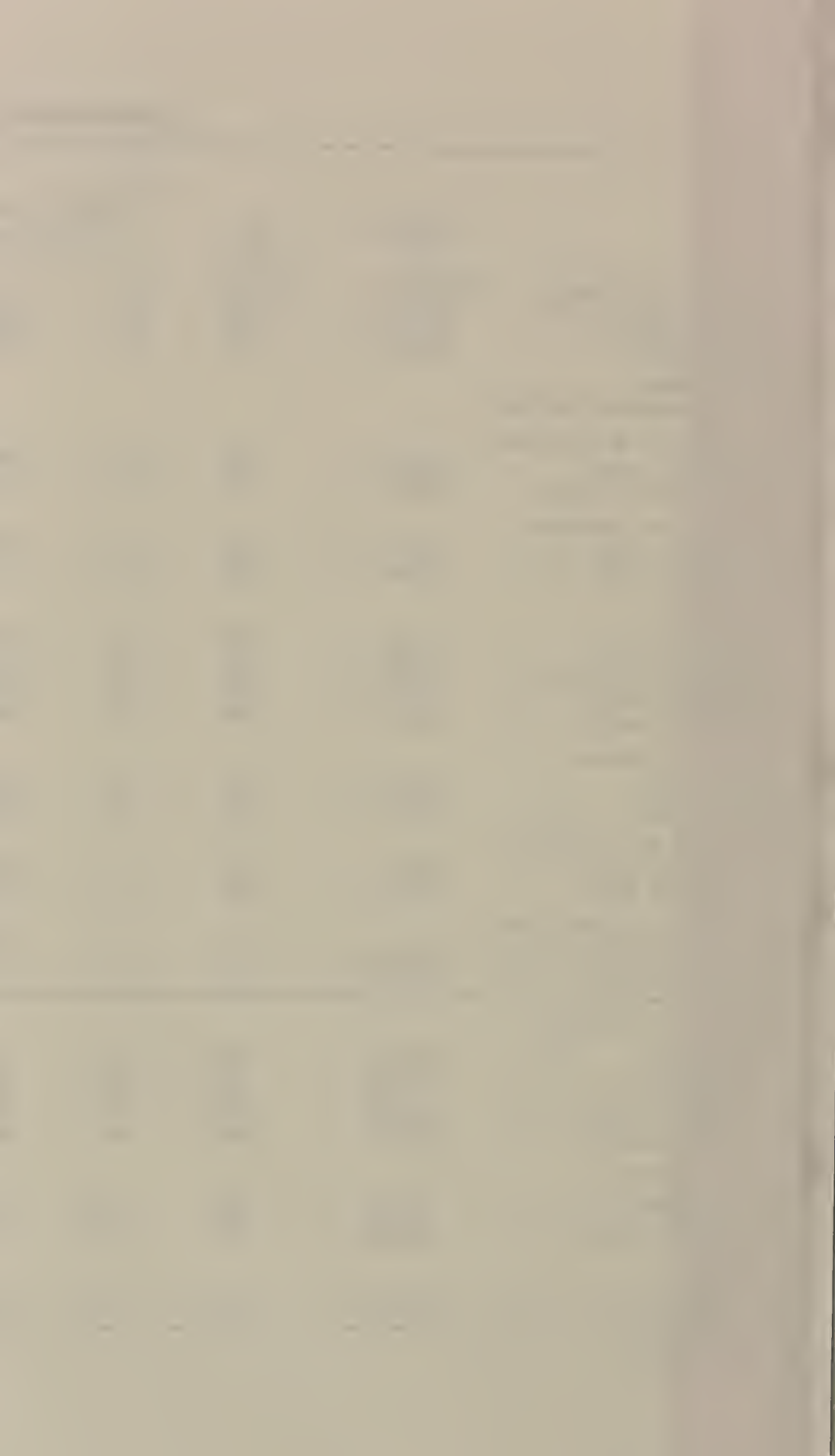
GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1969

	Estimated population 1969	No. of live Births	LIVE BIRTHS				Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	No. of Deaths	DEATHS				Ratio of local adj. Death rate to Nat. rate	INFANT MORTALITY		PERINATAL MORTALITY		STILL BIRTHS	
			Rate per 1,000 population		Crude	Adjusted			Rate per 1,000 Population		Deaths under one year	Rate per 1,000 live births		Still births and deaths under one week	Rate per 1,000 live and still births	No. of still births	Still births rate per 1,000 total births		
			Crude	Adjusted					Crude	Adjusted									
England and Wales ..	48,826,800	797,542	16.3	.....	.....	.....	579,463	11.9	.....	.....	.....	14,397	18	18,894	23	10,662	13
Administrative County	744,910	12,163	16.3	16.8	1.03	.....	9,872	13.3	15.2	1.27	.....	248	20	366	30	205	17
Urban Districts	523,220	8,125	15.5	16.0	0.98	.....	7,152	13.7	15.5	1.30	.....	179	22	257	31	145	18
Rural Districts	221,690	4,038	18.2	18.6	1.14	.....	2,720	12.3	14.1	1.19	.....	70	17	109	27	60	15
Health Division.																			
Constituent Districts.																			
Aberdare and Mountain Ash—																			
Aberdare Urban	38,210	650	17.0	18.5	1.14	.....	661	17.3	17.5	1.47	.....	13	20	21	32	11	17
Mountain Ash Urban	28,130	449	16.0	16.0	0.98	.....	398	14.1	16.9	1.42	.....	11	24	16	35	10	22
Caerphilly and Gelligaer—																			
Caerphilly Urban	38,890	797	20.0	19.6	1.20	.....	430	10.8	13.5	1.13	.....	20	25	29	36	16	20
Gelligaer Urban	34,500	606	17.6	17.6	1.08	.....	447	13.0	16.9	1.42	.....	16	26	17	27	13	21
Mid-Glamorgan—																			
Bridgend Urban	15,260	190	12.5	12.9	0.79	.....	186	12.2	13.1	1.10	.....	3	16	1	5	—	—
Maesteg Urban	21,220	357	16.8	17.5	1.07	.....	268	12.6	15.5	1.30	.....	7	20	12	33	7	19
Ogmore & Garw Urban ..	20,190	330	16.3	16.8	1.03	.....	256	12.7	15.6	1.31	.....	8	24	11	33	4	12
Porthcawl Urban	13,410	185	13.8	16.3	1.00	.....	176	13.1	10.5	0.88	.....	3	16	10	52	8	41
Penybont Rural	50,010	1,028	20.6	19.8	1.21	.....	674	13.5	13.0	1.09	.....	20	19	36	34	21	20
Neath and District—																			
Neath M.B.	29,690	380	12.8	13.3	0.82	.....	443	14.9	16.1	1.35	.....	9	24	9	23	5	13
Neath Rural	40,630	637	15.7	16.3	1.00	.....	562	13.8	16.7	1.40	.....	13	20	17	26	8	12
Pontypridd and Llantrisant—																			
Llantrisant Rural	33,230	727	21.9	22.6	1.38	.....	392	11.8	15.9	1.34	.....	16	22	23	31	14	19
Pontypridd Urban	35,010	539	15.4	15.7	0.96	.....	532	15.2	15.7	1.32	.....	12	22	21	38	13	24
Port Talbot and Glyncorrwg—																			
Glyncorrwg Urban	9,360	172	18.4	17.8	1.09	.....	105	11.2	16.1	1.36	.....	7	41	9	51	4	23
Port Talbot M.B.	50,970	706	13.9	13.8	0.84	.....	655	12.9	17.2	1.44	.....	13	18	23	32	13	18
South East Glamorgan—																			
Barry M.B.	42,500	649	15.3	15.8	0.97	.....	486	11.4	12.3	1.03	.....	10	15	13	20	6	9
Cardiff Rural	29,080	606	20.8	19.1	1.17	.....	310	10.7	11.6	0.97	.....	9	15	14	23	7	11
Cowbridge M.B.	1,430	38	26.6	26.3	1.62	.....	10	7.0	7.3	0.61	.....	1	26	3	75	2	50
Cowbridge Rural	23,000	401	17.4	19.8	1.22	.....	149	6.5	11.4	0.96	.....	2	5	7	17	5	12
Penarth Urban	23,120	345	14.9	16.1	0.99	.....	277	12.0	11.2	0.94	.....	4	12	6	17	3	9
West Glamorgan—																			
Gower Rural	16,100	261	16.2	17.0	1.04	.....	195	12.1	13.4	1.13	.....	5	19	5	19	1	4
Llwchwr Urban	26,030	380	14.6	15.6	0.96	.....	372	14.3	15.6	1.31	.....	9	24	16	41	10	26
Pontardawe Rural	29,640	378	12.8	14.5	0.89	.....	438	14.8	15.2	1.28	.....	5	13	7	18	4	10
Rhondda—																			
Rhondda M.B.	94,300	1,352	14.3	14.7	0.90	.....	1,450	15.4	17.2	1.45	.....	32	24	40	29	20	15

Gen/JED/JCM

29th June, 1970

10A



CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1969

as recorded by the Register General.

	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 Year	1-4	5-14	15-24	AGE IN YEARS					65-74	75 & over
								25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64			
1	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
2	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
3	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	5	1	2
4	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	3	4	3
		10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	5
5	Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
6	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	9	2	2
		6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
7	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	2	—	—
8	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
9	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
10	Leukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
		2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	5	—	3
11	Other Malignant Neoplasms	13	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	6	—	4
12	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
13	Diabetes Mellitus	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
14	Other Endocrine, etc., Diseases	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	4
		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	Anaemias	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
16	Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
17	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	1	1	—	1
		2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
18	Hypertensive Disease	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	4	4
		5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
19	Ischaemic Heart Disease	105	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	17	34	30	21	2
		69	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	32	28	6
20	Other Forms of Heart Disease	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	11
		14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	14	14	14
21	Cerebrovascular Disease	41	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	2	12	24
		40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1969—Continued.

	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 Year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over
22—Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	5	7
	F	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7
23—Influenza	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	4
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
24—Pneumonia	M	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	8	9
	F	16	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	11
25—Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	22	9
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
26—Asthma	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27—Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	2
	F	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
28—Peptic Ulcer	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29—Appendicitis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30—Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31—Cirrhosis of Liver	M	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32—Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	1
	F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	2
33—Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5
34—Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
35—Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
	F	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
36—Congenital Anomalies	M	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
37—Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
38—Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
39—Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
40—Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
41—All Other Accidents	M	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	3
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
42—Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
43—All Other External Causes	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
	F	378	9	1	—	2	3	2	1	33	91	127	98
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	277	2	1	1	—	1	1	7	21	35	84	124

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease during 1969 as compared with 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968.

Disease	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Scarlet Fever	6	12	24	12	—	8
Whooping Cough	7	12	13	56	20	7
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	132	846	403	576	298	551
Meningococcal Infection	—	2	—	1	—	1
Dysentery	—	6	76	4	18	44
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	1	1
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	2	3	2	2	3
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (infectious)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	3	6	6	3	—
Infective Jaundice	—	—	—	—	14	111

Distribution by Wards.

	Margam West	Margam Central	Margam North	Aberavon South	Aberavon North	Aberavon East	Aberavon West	Cwmavon	TOTALS
Whooping Cough	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Measles	41	44	45	22	31	28	244	96	551
Dysentery	3	2	—	3	1	8	27	—	44
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Infective Jaundice	4	3	15	14	5	26	44	—	111
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	8
Tuberculosis—									
Pulmonary	—	2	1	1	—	—	5	2	11
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

During 1969, 326 persons completed their primary immunisation against poliomyelitis. Oral vaccine is now exclusively used in this area.

In addition reinforcing (booster) doses were given to 1,065 persons during the year.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during 1969.

Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination.

This valuable form of protection against tuberculosis was made available to a further age group of school leavers, this being the fifteenth year of the scheme.

The parents of 1,022 children agreed to the procedure and the children were given the preliminary skin test. Of this number 644 were found to need vaccination of which 642 submitted to and were duly vaccinated.

Those children who gave a positive reaction to the skin test were invited to the Chest Clinic where they were duly X-rayed. On this occasion 36 children required further examination and surveillance. No new case of active tuberculosis came to light.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the period under review 270 children received their primary course of injections, 225 of these being born in 1968 and 1969. Some 1,076 older children were given their booster injections.

There is a sad reduction in the immunisation rate against this disease and I suspect that this is directly related to the falling attendances at the Local Authority Infant Welfare or Child Health Clinics as more and more parents and children are wooed into General Practitioner clinics. In spite of strenuous efforts by the Health Visitors attached to the general practices to encourage attendances for immunisation and protective procedures the results are disappointing. If the attendances at general practitioner surgeries do not improve dramatically or there is a return to the well-tried Local Authority Service an increasing number of the child population will be completely unprotected and diphtheria will once again start to kill.

Whooping Cough.

7 children were notified as suffering from Whooping Cough during 1969. The number given protective injections amounted to 695.

Smallpox Vaccination.

	No. Vaccinated	No. Re-Vaccinated
Under 1 year	12	—
1 year	26	3
2—4 years	89	3
5—15 years	14	30
15 years or over	—	—
TOTAL	141	36

Tuberculosis.

I append below particulars of the number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the beginning and at the end of the year, together with details of the notifications broken down into the various age groups

Number of Cases on Register on 1st January, 1969—228.

	Males	Females
Pulmonary	91	93
Non-Pulmonary	15	29
Total	106	122

Number of cases on Register on 31st December, 1969—223.

	Males	Females
Pulmonary	93	85
Non-Pulmonary	16	29
Total	109	114

Number of New Notifications	12
No. of In-Transfers	2
Number restored to Register	—
Total	14

Number left district	2
Number died	1
Number recovered	16
Number removed from Register—Diagnosis not confirmed	—
Unable to trace Patient	—
Total	19

New Cases during 1969 (formally notified):—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
Over 1 year and under 5 years	—	—	—	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years	—	—	—	—
Over 10 years and under 15 years	1	—	—	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years	2	—	1	—
Over 20 years and under 25 years	—	—	—	—
Over 25 years and under 35 years	1	—	—	—
Over 35 years and under 45 years	—	1	—	—
Over 45 years and under 55 years	3	1	—	—
Over 55 years and under 65 years	—	—	—	—
Over 65 years	2	—	—	—
Totals	9	2	1	—

Cases not formally notified (taken from local Registrar's returns):—2.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

As members will be aware, in addition to serving this Authority as Medical Officer of Health, I am also responsible for the day to day administration of the services provided by the Glamorgan County Council in the Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg Health Division.

Whilst the Borough Council is responsible for environmental health, my duties as Divisional Medical Officer relate to the personal health and welfare of the population of the borough.

I give below certain statistical information relating to services provided by the Local Health Authority for information of those members of the Council who are not sitting members of the Divisional Health Committee:

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Total domiciliary confinements	53
Doctor present	9

Domiciliary Nursing Service.

Total number of patients	960
Types of cases:	
Medical or Surgical	943
Tuberculous	17
Total number of visits	40,576

Medical Comforts.

Total Issues	576
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Home Help Service.

Total Part-Time and Casual Helps	102
Types of cases attended:	
Aged and Infirm	676
Chronic Sick and Tuberculosis	56
Mentally disordered	2
Maternity	5
Others	18
Total	757

Costs Charged:	No.	%
Full Cost	22	2.91
Part Cost	53	7.00
Free	682	90.09

Night Sitter-In Service.

Total number of patients	78
Total number of hours allocated	2,704

Chiropody Service.

Total number of patients treated	1,162
Total number of Home Visits	1,830
Total number of Clinic Visits	3,349

Clinic Services.

Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics.

Number of Women who attended Ante-Natal Clinics	631
Number of Women who attended Post-Natal Clinics	68

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Number of Children born in 1969 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics	812
Number of Children born in 1968 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics	1,068
Number of Children born in 1964/67 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics	1,278
Total	3,158

Health Visitors.

Visits to Children born in 1969	4,941
Visits to Children born in 1968	4,175
Visits to Children born in 1964/67	4,418
Visits to Tuberculous households	430
Other Visits	7,140
Total	21,104

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

Three persons resident in the borough were brought to my attention as in need of care and attention under the provisions of the National Assistance Act 1948. I am happy to be able to report that the problems were resolved voluntarily and it did not become necessary to institute statutory action.

HOUSING

During 1969, 144 permanent houses were completed of which 33 were built by the Council and 111 by other bodies or persons.

In order that easy comparison may be made I give below the figures for the past ten years in tabulated form.

Year.	Houses Completed by Local Authority.	Houses Completed by Others.	Total
1969	33	111	144
1968	135	111	246
1967	229	68	297
1966	167	67	234
1965	349	74	423
1964	188	85	273
1963	100	90	190
1962	245	98	343
1961	223	116	339
1960	210	103	313

The serious drop in the number of new housing units becoming available for letting adds to the problems of the Housing Manager. From the statistics given below which Mr. Collins has kindly provided, the bulk of his housing allocations have been made from the re-letting of older properties in the control of Authority.

This compares with the waiting list for previous years thus:—

December 31st, 1968	600
" " 1967	700
" " 1966	800
" " 1965	850
" " 1964	833
" " 1963	1,420
" " 1962	1,520
" " 1961	1,700
" " 1960	1,760
" " 1959	1,550

(i) Council dwellings let during the calendar year 1969

NEW DWELLINGS ALLOCATION				RE-LETS ALLOCATIONS			
General Needs	Removal of Temp. Bungalows	Rehousing from S/Std. properties	TOTAL	General Needs	Removal of Temp. Bungalows	Rehousing from S/Std. properties	TOTAL
18	12	3	33	173	1	17	191

The total of 191 dwellings becoming available for re-letting is made up as follows:—

(1) Tenants moving into alternative accommodation with the Borough	97
(2) Tenants moving outside the Borough	63
(3) Properties becoming vacant upon the deaths of tenants	28
(4) Evictions	3
	<u>191</u>

(ii) Total number of applications for Council housing accommodation received during the calendar year, 1969 252

I give below a table that gives an indication of some of the special categories of applicants where re-housing was affected during the period under review.

Families suffering from or exposed to Tuberculosis	3
Families from Condemned Houses (excluding Prefabs)	21
Families from overcrowded houses	3
Key Workers in Industry	25
Prefabricated bungalows	12

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.

There were no cases of statutory overcrowding discovered during 1969.

WATER SUPPLIES

As members will know, the West Glamorgan Water Board is generally responsible for the water supplies within the area of the borough. Mr. R. J. Lillicrap, Engineer and Manager, and I keep in close touch on all matters pertaining to supply and samples of water are taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis by the Board itself and spot checks are taken on my behalf by members of the Public Health Inspectorate. Details of the bacteriological and chemical analyses are included in Mr. Carter's section of this report.

Mr. Lillicrap has kindly submitted the following particulars for inclusion in this Annual Report:

- (a) The quality and quantity of water supplied has been satisfactory throughout the year. Regular sampling of all sources and on the distribution system was carried out by the Board's Chemist for bacteriological and chemical analyses.

Ten unsatisfactory samples were found in samples taken from local sources, and two from the River Neath source. Repeat samples taken at the same points were satisfactory.

- (b) Where unsatisfactory samples had been found, distribution mains were generally flushed out prior to re-sampling.

Number of dwelling houses supplied direct	17,069
Population supplied direct	52,100
Houses supplied via standpipes	Nil

The Board does not test for Fluoride Content in the various sources.

RAINFALL

Month	Rainfall in inches Town Centre
January	5.98
February	1.96
March	2.71
April	2.13
May	5.00
June	3.13
July	2.77
August	3.89
September	2.23
October .....	.95
November	5.89
December	4.19

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Education.

The following information has been provided by Mr. Eben Jones, the Divisional Education Officer:—

1. Average number of pupils attending primary and secondary secondary schools in the Borough during 1969 10,666
2. Daily average number of pupils receiving school meals during 1969 4,435
3. Daily average number of pupils receiving milk in school 1969 5,317

Children's Department.

Mr. W. D. Davies, the Glamorgan County Council Children's Officer, has kindly supplied the following details:—

1. Number of children admitted to Children's Homes in 1969 31
2. Number of children admitted to Residential Establishments 16
3. Number of children boarded-out 15
4. Number of children admitted to Approved Schools in 1969 7

Juvenile Court.

Mr. P. H. R. Thomas, the Clerk to the Court, states that 201 children between the ages of eight and seventeen years were brought before the Juvenile Court during 1969.

Welfare Services. Part III—Accommodation.

15 males and 20 females from Port Talbot were admitted to County Council Hostels during 1969.

	Male.	Female.
"Troed y Ton", Kenfig Hill	—	1
"Moorlands", Porthcawl	—	1
"Mor Awelon", Port Talbot	2	4
"Morfa Afan", Port Talbot	7	3
"Arwelfa" Cymmer, Port Talbot	2	3
"Min yr Afan", Cwmavon	4	8
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 20

At the end of the year the number on the waiting list for admission were 10 females and 3 males.

Employment of Disabled Persons.

	Male.	Female.
Number Registered Disabled in December, 1969	750	80
Number Registered Disabled placed in Employment in 1969	125	7
Number Registered Disabled wholly Unemployed in December, 1969	124	17

I append below details of the unemployment figures for Port Talbot for the past ten years:—

	Male.	Female.
December, 1960	188	70
" 1961	276	137
" 1962	439	137
" 1963	361	153
" 1964	338	146
" 1965	458	195
" 1966	853	230
" 1967	563	277
" 1968	658	242
" 1969	576	228

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

As members will know, it is my practice in this section of my Annual Report to highlight one or more developments in the industrial field that have a major bearing on the prosperity and wellbeing of the community—and thus indirectly affecting the health and welfare of the residents. On this occasion I wish specifically to refer to the two major developments—B.P. Chemicals (U.K.) Ltd., and the New Tidal Harbour.

Mr. J. G. Harries, the Works Personnel Manager at B.P. Chemicals (U.K.) Limited, at the request of Mr. P. H. M. Sharrock, the Works General Manager and Dr. C. H. B. Binns, the Medical Officer, has provided the following information. I am grateful to him and the management for these particulars.

1. Plant Development

We shall hope to have the following plants mechanically complete by the dates shown below, and to have product available from them fairly soon after.

P.V.C. 1st Phase	—	December, 1970
V.C.M.	—	January, 1971
Styrene	—	May, 1971
Chlorine	—	June, 1971
Power	—	August, 1971
I.P.A.	—	October, 1971
Ethylene/GTU/Butadiene	—	January, 1972
Ethanol	—	April, 1972
Vinyl Acetate	—	April, 1972
P.V.C. 2nd Phase	—	November, 1972

2. Numbers of Personnel

We expect to increase numbers employed roughly as follows:

Now	—	900
End 1970	—	1500
End 1971	—	1900

3. Welfare Facilities

Existing canteens are adequate to cope with the immediate increase in the number of work people. Our expansion plans include provision whereby all employees will continue to be able to use our own canteen service.

Sick Pay Schemes in operation are such that relatively few employees lose salary during absence through sickness or injury, and usually only when their aggregate absence within a twelve month period is abnormally high.

All employees are eligible for membership of the BP Llandarcy Club, which provides a full range of sports and social facilities.

4. Medical Facilities

As part of the expansion scheme at BP Chemicals, Baglan Bay Works, a new Medical Centre is to be built, the work of which will be principally concerned with preventive occupational health. We envisage the main facilities to be provided as the following:

- (a) Pre-placement examinations of new entrants including, where appropriate, lung function and industrial audiometric programmes.

- (b) Facilities for the immediate treatment of sudden illness occurring whilst employees are at work and first treatment of casualties occurring at work.
- (c) A fully equipped de-contamination room.
- (d) Facilities for emergency resuscitation and first treatment of gassing casualties. Such facilities will be adequate to deal with comparatively large numbers if necessary and will also be provided in addition on all fire appliances and within the Fire Station itself which, in any event, will be immediately adjacent to the new Medical Centre.
- (e) A new Works Ambulance has already been obtained which is capable of carrying up to six sitting cases or two stretcher cases and four sitting cases, and is fully equipped to provide oxygen either on the free breathing principle or with intermittent positive pressure resuscitation apparatus for up to four cases at one time. In addition, the ambulance and fire appliances are equipped with the usual types of First Aid requisites.
- (f) The new Medical Centre will also contain a laboratory with facilities for biological monitoring in cases involving certain classes of exposed workers.
- (g) A full time Fire / First Aid / Rescue service is already in being, all of the personnel of which hold current First Aid or advanced First Aid Certificates. New recruits taken on as part of the expansion programme will be trained up to this standard and will be required to become certificated.
- (h) All new employees being taken on as part of the expansion programme are subject to an intensive induction course lasting several days. Among the topics covered are the uses of breathing apparatus, the plant medical and fire facilities, and lectures and films on toxic hazards likely to be encountered. Instruction is also given in mouth to mouth resuscitation.

As the Medical Department progresses, it is hoped to develop closer co-operation with local hospital authorities, General Practitioners and the Public Health Services, particularly within the fields of rehabilitation and placement of Registered Disabled Persons.

5. Environmental Pollution Problems

The Works General Manager has appointed Mr. W. H. K. Crookston, our Works Chemist, to undertake liaison with local authorities and other bodies on the technical aspects of environmental pollution. We do not think it practical in a short report of this kind to describe the very considerable efforts already made by BP in relation to these matters. Mr. Crookston will, however, be very pleased to meet you and to discuss the situation with you.

6. Safety Facilities

Our existing Works Safety Department will be expanded in terms of both men and equipment. There will be at least 4 employees engaged full-time on Safety work and approximately 25 full-time Firemen, assisted by 8 specially trained Auxiliaries per shift, who will be available on call from their own jobs. We have designed and had built two new Fire Tenders.

BIG SHIPS AT PORT TALBOT

Port Talbot Docks are situated in Swansea Bay at the mouth of the River Afan, 8 miles east of Swansea and access to the Docks is through an Entrance Lock 450 ft. long and 60 ft. wide, with a depth of water on the outer cill of 34 ft. at M.H.W.S. but only 26½ ft. at N.H.W.N.

The Docks are the point for receiving Iron Ore from overseas for the British Steel Corporation (Steel Company of Wales Division) who discharge the Ore by their own appliances at a wharf leased from the British Transport Docks Board and which is immediately alongside their Works.

The size of vessels that can enter the Dock is severely restricted because of the small Entrance Lock, and iron ore carriers with deadweight capacities of about 10,000 tons and loaded draught of 25 ft. can be dealt with through the lock, only on about three tides out of four, and then only for about 3 hours on each tide.

The Lock has been a handicap to Port Talbot for many years, and the former Owners—The Port Talbot Railway and Docks Company—obtained Parliamentary Powers as long ago as 1914 to construct a new Entrance Lock that would have allowed vessels with a length of 875 ft., a beam of 90 ft. and a loaded draught of 30 ft. to enter on all tides. Unfortunately, the work was not proceeded with because of the first World War, and the Parliamentary Powers subsequently lapsed.

The need for improving the facilities at Port Talbot has been evident for many years. The 10,000 ton iron ore carriers—which are the largest that can be dealt with through the lock—are uneconomic for the carriage of iron ore even from the nearer sources of supply, such as Sweden, and more so, from the more distant markets of the world which are now available. The Steel Works have thus been denied the benefit of the low freight charges that are obtainable only from the use of large carriers; in addition, the ultimate development of the Steelworks could be restricted by the total annual capacity of the present Dock for the reception and unloading of ore.

In 1955 and 1956 there were discussions between the British Transport Docks, the then Steel Company of Wales, and the British Iron and Steel Research Association on the practicability of providing a new Entrance Lock together with extended Breakwaters and a deepened Approach Channel. Various schemes were considered, but were all rejected for one reason or another—one important reason was that ships would have to be dealt with on a lee shore. It was therefore decided that a scheme for a new Tidal Harbour should be developed, and in 1964 the British Transport Docks Board obtained Parliamentary Powers for its construction.

Meanwhile, other projects for other Ore Terminals were promulgated—Milford Haven, Cardiff, Newport and even Barry. Some of these schemes were intended to act as a common point of intake for all the Steel Works in South Wales. In view of the large capital expenditure and the important issues involved, the Government decided that a special examination of the rival projects should be undertaken. The Government subsequently published its conclusions in a White Paper (Cmnd 2706) of July 1965 that the balance of advantage lay with two independent Terminals—at Port Talbot and Newport—for each of which Parliamentary Powers were granted.

The scheme for providing the new facilities at Port Talbot consists of the construction of a new Tidal Harbour, south-west of the existing Dock system, protected by South and North Breakwaters and containing initially one unloading Jetty.

At about High Water the loaded ore carriers will traverse a dredged approach channel $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles long and 550 ft. wide, and will be berthed on the southern side of the Jetty. They will be able to remain afloat at the berth throughout the tidal cycle in a pocket that will always have a minimum depth of 51 feet.

The British Steel Corporation have provided two unloading appliances on the Jetty and also a conveyor system which will carry the iron ore to the stocking ground in the immediate vicinity of the Harbour, and which will be on the doorstep of the Steel Works.

The Harbour is able to deal with ore carriers with draughts of up to 49 ft. which can be taken as representative of a ship 100,000 tons. There will be virtually no restrictions on the length or the beam of the vessels which can be dealt with.

The Entrance Channel has a depth of water of 60 ft. on M.H.W.S. and 53 ft. M.H.W.N. Alongside the unloading berth there is 80 ft. M.H.W.S., 73 ft. M.H.W.N. and 51ft L.W.S.T. There will always be sufficient water in the Entrance Channel for the ore carriers to sail after discharge, irrespective of the state of the tide.

The Southern Breakwater is 60 ft. above the sea bed, 2,350 yards long and 300 ft. wide at its base. The Lee Breakwater is 485 yards long. The distance between the Breakwater lights is 530 yards.

Approximately 2½ million tons of stone were required for the Breakwaters. This came largely from the Cornelly Quarries (near Porthcawl) belonging to the British Steel Corporation. In order to avoid all this stone traversing the main A.48 trunk road, a new roadway was constructed to connect the Cornelly Quarries with the new Tidal Harbour. The Roadway is 9 miles long, 40 ft. wide and was built in eleven weeks. The stone for the "core" of the Breakwater is up to 2 tons each stone. The intermediate stones vary between 3 and 6 tons and the stone required for the main armouring on the sea side of the South Breakwater are up to 8 tons. Not all the stones for the heavy armouring could be obtained from the Cornelly Quarries some of them were obtained from local quarries in the Neath Valley, but nearly 700,000 tons were brought down in train loads from Derbyshire.

The contracts for the construction of the Breakwaters and the roadways together with certain ancillary works and also for the construction of the unloading jetty were awarded to a consortium of Messrs. Marples Ridgway-Kier; the dredging contract was given to a consortium of K. L. Kalis and Westminster Dredging Company, whilst the contract for the construction of the two unloading appliances on the jetty were undertaken by Sir William Arrols.

The grabs on the unloading appliances weigh 21 tons and each has a pay load of 21 tons. At the start of the unloading operations, the grabs are able to dig easily into the bulk of the cargo and achieve a high rate of discharge; during such periods of "free digging" the grabs have a combined unloading rate of 3,600 tons per hour. The average rate throughout the discharge from start to finish for the two discharging appliances together is 1,800 tons per hour. Vessels with a cargo of 100,000 tons will therefore be discharged in approximately two days.



BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT

Annual Report

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December

1969

BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough
of Port Talbot

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1969. This is my eighth annual report since I began as your Chief Public Health Inspector, but it is also significant in that it is to be the last full year's report that I have the honour to present to you. At the time of writing this report I have already indicated to you my intention to retire from your service on reaching my sixtieth birthday in July of 1970 having served local government continuously for 43 years. Therefore the report to succeed this will certainly be under the signature of my successor.

I would like, therefore, to make, as a particular feature of this letter, a short account of certain changes which have taken place in the department since I was appointed in November, 1962.

With the constant development of the Borough, and with the ever increasing legislation brought into being, we had to face up to the inevitable necessity of increasing the staff personnel. Therefore during the period under this short review we have increased the inspectorial staff from six to eight. The complement of pupil public health inspectors has remained at three as it was not possible to increase this number, this being the total number allowed by the Examination Board for a town the size of Port Talbot.

A long felt want in the department was that of providing an Administrative Assistant. Council made such an appointment in 1968 and this move has proved to be an unqualified success. We also found the need to add to our rodent staff. We existed for some considerable time with two operatives and over the period in question this number was first of all increased to three and then to five. We feel able to cover all aspects of rodent work in the Borough far more effectively now with this kind of staff.

It will thus be seen that in the seven years from 1962 to 1969 the total staff was increased from 14 to 20, which is an increase of almost fifty per cent in personnel.

I feel it worthy of mention that the department maintained its momentum in slum clearance during the seven years and in this period a total of 569 houses were condemned because of unfitness, this number being made up of 174 individually unfit houses and 395 houses represented in clearance areas. This figure represents a good average as there was for a period of twelve to eighteen months about 1964/65 when not a lot of clearance work was carried out. The department has throughout the years dealt with approximately 100 houses annually in our slum clearance programmes.

I feel that during these last few years we have improved the work of the department in a number of ways. For example we embarked upon the volumetric recordings of sulphur dioxide and smoke and thus Port Talbot has taken part in the national survey into atmospheric pollution conducted by the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Ministry of Technology. We installed five stations in various parts of the Borough and therefore we have taken daily recordings of smoke and sulphur dioxide for some considerable period. In the matter of noise we have purchased the best of measurement equipment, and this has proved of immense value in our investigations into all problems of this kind. We brought into the department a number of dictaphones and this move has proved to be a tremendous advance in efficiency in the department.

Much new legislation has been brought on to the Statute Book in this period and this, of course, is instrumental in making the department more busy in the various categories of work which it has to perform. Examples of this legislation are the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964, Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963, Riding Establishment Act, 1964, Housing Acts of 1964 and 1969, Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, the Clean Air Act, 1968 and the Civic Amenities Act, 1967.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act brought to the Department in this period a considerable amount of work and a perusal of the department's achievements in this respect will show that we can be well satisfied with the work we have done.

The new Hygiene Regulations in respect of Markets, Stalls and Vehicles also brought a considerable amount of work to the department. Here was a tightening up of Food Hygiene Law which had long been wanted, and much of the abuse of food hygiene has been able to be rectified.

We conducted some very useful exhibitions as part of the larger town exhibition at the Afan Lido, and although it is somewhat difficult to vary the kind of display that the department can make, we believe that we did quite well and attracted no small interest in the matter of food hygiene, noise, atmospheric pollution, etc.

In making my own review of the department's activities during the period that I have been honoured to be the Corporation's Chief Public Health Inspector, I look at the work done with a sense of satisfaction, in that we certainly have not stood still, but by our energies I believe we have brought about improvements. The town of Port Talbot will always expand and develop, and therefore we will continue to see the staff having to grow accordingly. It has been nice for me to notice that there has barely been any change in the existing staff personnel during my term of office, practically the only changes being as a result of the necessary additions to the staff. Therefore, I have to say, with the greatest sincerity, that they have to be thanked profoundly for playing such a loyal part in the continued progress and efficiency of the department.

My relations with the many members of Council who have served during these past eight years have been harmonious as has been my constant deliberations with all officers of Council, and for this I feel much gratitude. I have appreciated, perhaps, in particular, the friendship and co-operation I have experienced from the Town Clerk, Medical Officer of Health and the various Chairmen of the Public Health and Housing Committees with whom I have had closest contact. Last and very high on the list I thank my deputy, Mr. Heycock, for his unstinting loyalty and efficiency throughout my period as Chief Public Health Inspector.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

LESLIE J. CARTER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

Housing Inspections and Re-inspections	2,789
Structural Defects	1,314
Drains, Yards, Urinals, W.C's, etc.	482
Amusement Houses, Cinemas, etc.	26
Verminous Premises	113
Dirty Conditions	92
Accumulations	321
Ashpits, Privies and Cesspools (Refuse Tips)	81
Caravans	80
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	60
Food Premises, Kitchens and Vehicles	1,152
Houses let in Lodgings, Tenements, etc.	26
Offensive Trades	16
Factories	125
Fish Friers	58
Ice-cream Premises	144
Bakehouses	32
Want of Cleanliness	17
Inadequate Ventilation	6
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	5
Other Offences	6
Pigstyes and Swine Keeping	42
Stables, Refuse and Manure	16
Rats and Mice	8,442
Smoke Nuisances	38
Animals	18
Meat Inspections	514
Slaughterhouse, Other than Meat Inspection	94

Water Sampling—	
Bacteriological	492
Chemical	207
Food and Drug Sampling	301
Schools	18
Water Courses	25
Milk Sampling (Bacteriological)	49
Ice Cream Sampling	17
Interviews with Owners, etc.	589
Atmospheric Pollution Recordings	1,710
Court Cases	7
Public Houses	60
Infectious Diseases	4
Re-visits to Shops and Offices	284
Plans	52
Noise Nuisances	36
Dust Nuisances	28
Beach (Sea Pollution)	4
Hairdressers	24
Scrap Metal Dealers	20
Mobile Vehicles	53

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	347
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same	2,789
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation	86
Number of houses found not in all respects to be reasonably fit for human habitation	281
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices	202

The number of nuisances discovered, together with the number of Notices served during the year were as follows:—

Nature of Inspection	Nuisances discovered	Informal Notices served	Abatement Notices served
Structural Defects	188	186	7
Drains, Yards, etc.	212	212	—
Dirty Conditions, etc.	45	45	—
Pigstyes and Swine	3	3	—
Food Premises	80	80	—
Rats and Mice	158	135	3
Accumulations	182	179	—
Verminous Premises	62	34	—
Verminous Persons	—	—	—
Stables and Manure	1	—	1
Improper Keeping of Animals	4	4	—
Caravans	6	6	—
Overcrowding	2	2	—
Smoke Nuisances	10	10	—
Noise Nuisances	20	20	—
Dust Nuisances	10	10	10
Redecoration	38	32	—
Dangerous Structure	1	1	—
TOTALS	1,023	959	21

The nature of the work carried out to abate the various nuisances and contraventions was as follows:-

Houses: Roofs repaired 27; Wallplaster renewed 32; Ceilings repaired 7; Dampness remedied 55; Water Service pipes repaired 9; Staircases repaired 4; Walls repaired 3; Chimney Stacks repaired 6; Floors repaired 9; Windows repaired 36; Fireplaces repaired 4.

Drainage: Eaves gutters repaired or renewed 14; Vent pipes repaired or renewed 10; Drains cleared 122; Inspection chambers renewed or repaired 12; Drains relaid or repaired 20; Drains tested 122.

Toilet Fittings, etc.: W.C. Cisterns renewed or repaired 23; W.C. pans renewed 23; Sink waste pipes unblocked 14; New gullies provided 5; Sink waste pipes unblocked 14; New sinks provided 10.

Verminous and Dirty Houses: Bed Bugs—Number of houses infested 20; Number of houses disinfested by Local Authority 20; Ants—Number of houses infested 423; Number of houses disinfested by Local Authority 423.

In addition 4 houses were treated for woodworm, 6 for wasps and 2 for fleas.

Accumuations: Accumulations removed 228.

Food Premises: Redecoration carried out 62; Cleanliness improved 91; Washing facilities provided or improved 12; Nailbrushes provided 40; Provision of refuse receptacles 43; Protection of food from risk of contamination 89.

Food Vehicles: Number inspected 91; Name and address provided 40; Hot and cold water provided 25; Provision of nailbrushes, etc. 27; Protection of food from risk of contamination 31; Provision of refuse receptacles 25.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES AND MEAT INSPECTIONS

Meat Inspection Regulations 1963

In 1969 there were 34,832 animals slaughtered at the private abattoir in Port Talbot, this compares with 38,806 in 1968.

The Charges for meat inspection were increased from 50% of the maximum allowed under the Meat Regulations, 1963 by 12½%.

The record of the number of animals killed week by week is shown on pages 38 to 40. The following also gives comparative figures for the previous ten years.

1960	11,549	1965	12,866
1961	13,019	1966	14,892
1962	12,746	1967	29,087
1963	12,349	1968	38,806
1964	12,672	1969	34,832

SLAUGHTERHOUSE MEAT CONDEMNATIONS FOR YEAR 1969

Bulls, Bullocks and Helfers

DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

3 Carcasses	— 2 Cysticercus Bovis; 1 Emaciation.
9 Heads and Tongues	— 1 Bruising; 2 Cysticercus Bovis; 1 Fibrosis, 5 Actinobacillosis.
3 Hearts	— 2 Pericarditis; 1 Cysticercus Bovis.
410 Lungs	— 212 Pleurisy; 78 Hydatid Cysts; 6 Abscess; 23 Congested; 91 Pneumonia.
883 Livers	— 757 Distomatosis; 22 Cavernous Angiomata; 71 Abscess; 26 Hydatid Cyst; 7 Parasitic.
98 Part Livers	— 98 Distomatosis.
7 Spleens	— 4 Peritonitis; 3 Abscess.
21 Skirts	— 9 Abscess; 5 Pleurisy; 7 Peritonitis.
2 Stomach and Intestines	— 2 Abscess.

Cows

TUBERCULOSIS:

1 Carcase	— T.B.
3 Carcases	— 2 Emaciated; 1 Cysticercus Bovis.
22 Lungs	— 1 Pneumonia; 4 Hydatid Cysts; 1 Abscess; 5 Congested; 11 Pleurisy.
50 Part Livers	— 47 Distomatosis; 3 Cirrhosis.
56 Livers	— 41 Distomatosis; 10 Cavernous Angiomata; 5 Hydatid Cysts.

Calves

DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

2 Lungs	— 2 Pneumonia.
1 Carcase and offal	— Drug injections.

Pigs

TUBERCULOSIS:

72 Heads	— T.B.
1 Hind Leg	— T.B.

DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

1 Carcase and offal	— Jaundice.
1 Hind Leg	— Abscess.
3 Foreleg	— 1 Septic; 2 Abscess.
3,751 Lungs	— 1,847 congested; 1,856 Pneumonia;
1,039 Livers	— 48 Pleurisy.
	1011 Ascaris Lumbricoides; 4 Peritonitis; 24 Parasitic.
43 Hearts	— 43 Pericarditis.
18 Kidneys	— 4 Nephritis; 14 Hydronephrosis.
6 Spleens	— 2 Peritonitis; 2 Oedema; 2 Cystic.
9 Stomachs & Intestines	— 6 Inflammation.
	1 Peritonitis; 2 Congestion;
36 Plucks	— 34 Pleurisy; 2 Peritonitis.

Sheep

DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

5 Carcases	— 2 Bruised; 2 Emaciated; 1 Moribund.
1 Shoulder	— 1 Abscess.
2 Leg	— 2 Bruised.
1 Foreleg	— Bruising.
4350 Lungs	— 247 Strongyli; 2386 Parasitic; 1318 Pneumonia; 62 Cysts; 278 Congested; 59 Pleurisy.
3541 Livers	— 1756 Distomatosis; 1594 Parasitic; 185 Tenuicollis; Cysts! 6 Abscess.
24 Plucks	— 18 Pleurisy and Peritonitis; 5 Cystic; 1 C. Tenuicollis.
2 Stomach and Intestines	— 2 Peritonitis.
16 Hearts	— 5 Pericarditis; 5 T. Ovis; 3 Cysts; 3 Parasitic.
1 Head	— C. Ovis.
2 Shoulders	— 2 Necrosis.

The percentage figures of diseased animals over a period of years are as follows:—

Tuberculosis

Year.	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
1960	0.67	—	—	—	1.82
1961	0.93	—	—	—	2.81
1962	0.61	—	—	—	1.07
1963	0.24	—	—	—	1.19
1964	0.08	—	—	—	1.07
1965	—	—	—	—	0.57
1966	—	—	—	—	.60
1967	—	—	—	—	1.38
1968	0.2	—	—	—	1.1
1969	—	0.32	—	—	0.63

Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Year.	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
1960	43.19	50.0	1.86	12.9	28.02
1961	32.92	40.0	0.79	14.6	35.57
1962	26.86	10.0	1.5	16.01	38.55
1963	28.96	—	0.95	17.86	43.55
1964	45.84	—	—	27.98	36.42
1965	50.2	—	—	33.88	38.8
1966	56.2	48.2	—	36.5	40.63
1967	58.49	56.43	0.32	32.65	44.6
1968	58.01	29.4	0.7	32.90	45.52
1969	44.45	15.01	2.25	27.23	33.60

Bovine Cysticercosis

Year	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS.			COWS.		
	Examined	Affected	Percentage	Examined	Affected	Percentage
1960	889	11	1.23	2	—	—
1961	1969	10	0.90	5	—	—
1962	983	3	0.31	10	—	—
1963	1257	13	1.03	4	—	—
1964	1263	9	0.71	—	—	—
1965	1032	2	0.19	81	—	—
1966	1031	6	0.58	86	—	—
1967	1954	10	0.51	101	—	—
1968	2532	11	0.4	388	—	—
1969	2428	9	0.37	313	1	0.32

**UN SOUND OR UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED OR SURRENDERED
FROM FOOD PREMISES THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH DURING
THE YEAR**

As in previous years shopkeepers bring to the Department any unsound food which they have on their premises in order that we may give surrender notes for them. This is the best system that can be devised as shopkeepers are by this means enabled to have the incentive to rotate their stock and to extract from it any doubtful canned foods or otherwise unsound food which they may have on the premises.

Fish: 17 cwt. 100 lbs.

Tinned Meat: 19 cwt. 72 lbs.

Tinned Foods: 1 ton. 0 cwt. 10 lbs.

Raw Meat: 18 tons. 16 lbs.

ANNUAL SLAUGHTERING RETURNS

The weekly slaughtering returns for 1969 were as follow:—

1969 Week Ending	GRAND			BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS			COWS			CALVES			SHEEP			PIGS		
	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals
Jan. 5	571		37	2		3			387			140						
12	872		56	17		2			578			221						
19	830		51	8		5			580			186						
26	685		50	23		2			439			171						
31	536	3494	35	21	229	9	71	21	324	2308		147					865	
Feb. 2	130		—	—		—	—		80			50						
9	582		56	15		8			316			187						
16	596		48	14		6			307			222						
23	546		37	10		10			267			222						
29	420	5768	47	22	417	8	132	53	155	3434		186					1732	
March 2	98		4	—		—	—		67			27						
9	567		57	9		15			264			222						
16	433		43	12		8			169			201						
23	482		55	4		8			215			200						
30	413		42	12		5			136			218						
31	141	7902	—	—	618	1	169	90	96	4381		44					2644	
April 6	246		54	—		22			29			141						
13	354		47	2		2			109			194						
20	478		52	4		7			181			234						
27	477		54	2		3			230			188						
30	343	9800	26	1	851	6	178	130	189	5119		123					3522	
May 4	144		23	1		—			20			100						
11	494		57	1		6			230			200						
18	436		51	—		3			203			180						
25	543		51	—		9			253			230						
31	475	11892	46	—	1079	1	180	149	266	6090		162					4394	
June 7	568		58	—		1			309			201						
14	508		46	3		1			297			161						
21	582		42	—		1			357			182						
28	706		47	4		1			465			188						
30	160	14416	2	2	1274	—	189	153	110	7628		46					5172	

Annual Slaughtering Returns—Continued.

1969 Week Ending	GRAND			BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS			COWS			CALVES			SHEEP			PIGS		
	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals
July	6	.....	520	.....	35	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	366	.....	117	.....	.....	.....
	13	.....	661	.....	47	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	449	.....	163	.....	.....	.....
	20	.....	614	.....	37	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	412	.....	164	.....	.....	.....
	27	.....	689	.....	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	477	.....	171	.....	.....	.....
	31	.....	508	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	193	1	.....	.....	424	9756	.....	.....	5852	.....
Aug.	3	.....	165	.....	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83	.....	60	.....	.....	.....
	10	.....	672	.....	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	452	.....	173	.....	.....	.....
	17	.....	662	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	490	.....	138	.....	.....	.....
	24	.....	727	.....	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	505	.....	179	.....	.....	.....
	31	.....	734	.....	38	.....	.....	.....	193	3	.....	.....	511	11797	.....	.....	6589	.....
Sept.	7	.....	748	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	496	.....	198	.....	.....	.....
	14	.....	839	.....	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	586	.....	196	.....	.....	.....
	21	.....	783	.....	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	528	.....	199	.....	.....	.....
	28	.....	862	.....	43	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	599	.....	199	.....	.....	.....
	30	.....	397	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	220	.....	.....	.....	283	14279	.....	.....	7490	.....
Oct.	5	.....	409	.....	39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	.....	114	.....	.....	.....
	12	.....	886	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	617	.....	208	.....	.....	.....
	19	.....	919	.....	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	631	.....	224	.....	.....	.....
	26	.....	818	.....	39	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	561	.....	215	.....	.....	.....
	31	.....	664	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	261	8	.....	.....	424	16762	.....	.....	8425	.....
Nov.	2	.....	154	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	124	.....	30	.....	.....	.....
	9	.....	868	.....	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	609	.....	202	.....	.....	.....
	16	.....	840	.....	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	555	.....	223	.....	.....	.....
	23	.....	888	.....	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	591	.....	232	.....	.....	.....
	30	.....	854	.....	54	.....	.....	.....	298	3	.....	.....	585	19226	.....	.....	9323	.....
Dec.	7	.....	938	.....	45	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	621	.....	254	.....	.....	.....
	14	.....	944	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	644	.....	253	.....	.....	.....
	21	.....	903	.....	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	543	.....	291	.....	.....	.....
	28	.....	258	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	123	.....	124	.....	.....	.....
	31	.....	501	.....	26	.....	.....	.....	313	4	.....	.....	371	21529	.....	.....	10345	.....

Summary of Annual Slaughter

Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers	2,428
Cows	313
Calves	217
Sheep	21,529
Pigs	10,345

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part during 1969

		Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed		2428	313	217	21529	10345
Number Inspected		2428	313	217	21529	10345
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCOSIS.						
Whole carcases condemned		1	2	2	7	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		1076	45	3	5856	3454
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis		44.36	15.01	2.25	27.23	33.6
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.						
Whole Carcases condemned		—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned		—	—	—	—	76
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis		—	—	0.46	—	0.63
CYSTICERCOSIS.						
Generalised and totally condemned		2	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ affected		5	—	—	—	—
Cases submitted to treatment by refrigeration		4	—	—	—	—
Percentage on number inspected affected with Cysticercosis		0.45	0.32	—	—	—

FOOD SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

Inspection and Sampling of Food and Drugs to safeguard quality, description, etc.

During the year 301 samples of various foods and drugs were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst at the County Public Health Laboratory Cardiff.

Eight of these samples were found to be adulterated or otherwise unsatisfactory.

The number of samples that we take is one which is satisfactory for the population of the Borough, and as always we spread the sampling over the whole Borough and endeavour to see that the variety of foods and drugs is as wide as possible.

The number and variety of foods submitted for analysis were as follows:-

Aromatic seasoning 1; Aromatic bitters 1; Baby Food 3; Beveridge 1; Brandy 3; Butter 6; Bread 1; Baked Beans in tomato sauce 1; Beans, baked and pork sausage 1; Beans green diabetic 1; Cheese 6; Cherries 1; Chestnut puree 1; Chocolate Preparation 2; Cheese Sauce Mix 1; Cockles, pickled 1; Christmas Pudding 1; Coffee, instant 2; Coffee, chicory essence 1; Colouring food 1; Coconut dessicated 1; Custard powder 1; Cream 4; Cream buns 1; Curry 3; Dessert canned 1; Dessert, powder 1; Fat, cooking 1; Flavouring 2; Flour, self raising 1; Fish Paste 1; Fruit, dried, mixed 2; Gin 3; Gravy preparation 1; Ginger Flavour 1; Glucose tablets 1; Gravy browning 1; Ice-Cream Powder 1; Ice-cream 18; Jam 4; Jelly 2; Lard 4; Lemon Cheese 1; Margarine 12; Marmalade 1; Milk 46; Milk C.I. 7; Milk malted 1; Milk skimmed condensed 1; Milk shake syrup 1; Mint, dried, canned 1; Milk full cream evaporated 2; Milk skimmed instant 1; Milk skimmed, sweetened, condensed 1; Mincemeat 1; Mushrooms, canned 1; Peas, garden, quick dried 1; Peas dehydrated 1; Olives, stuffed 1; Oranges, Mandarins 1; Oats quaker 1; Onions, pickled 1; Peas, processed 1; Peel, mixed cut 1; Pepper 1; Pickle Curry, pectinliquid 1; Pie, pineapple 1; Pickle 1; Potato salad 2; Potato mashed, instant 1; Preserves 2; Prunes 1; Pie filling 1; Rum 1; Soft drinks 5; Salmon 2; Soup canned 4 Semolina 1; Soup, mushroom dehydrated 1; Sponge, gooseberry 1; Sweets 5; Snack-meal 1; Sauce, fruit 2; Sugar, confectionery 1; Stuffing, sage and onion 1; Savour preparation 1; Slimming preparation 1; Spaghetti hoops with tomato and cheese sauce 1; Sponge pudding, mixed fruit 1; Stuffing mix 1; Tomato puree condensed 1; Tomatoes peeled, canned 1; Tomato spread 1; Vodka 1; Water, ice, orange 1; Whisky 2; Yoghurt 1; Vegetable salad in mayonaise canned 1; Wallnuts pickled 1; Jelly 3.

Meat and Meat Products

Curry with chicken and mushrooms 1; Chicken in jelly, canned 1; Corned beef 1; Chicken, minced pie filling 1; Beef Curry with Rice 1; Beef, minced 1; Beef minced and peas canned 1; Beef, minced, snack 1; Ham Roll 1; Ham roll with egg, canned 1; Hamburgers, fried with gravy and onions 2; Ham and Chicken Roll 1; Ham, chopped with pork 1; Luncheon Meat, pork 3; Liver 2; Liver Sausage 1; Meatballs in onion gravy 1; Meat, gravy pie 2; Meat paste 5; Porked canned 1; Pasty 2; Pat de Foie 1; Pork Pie canned 1; Sausages, pork 3; Steak and kidney pie 2; Steak, stewed canned 3; Steak minced with gravy 1; Tongues, Lambs 2; Steak and vegetables 1; Sausages, beef 1; Ravioli, beef in sauce 1; Steak, savoury, minced with onions 1; Steak, stewed with gravy 1; Stew, Irish 1.

Drugs and Medicinal Preparations

Cydizue Tablets, B.P. 1; Cascara Tablets 1; Castor Oil BP 1; Cod Liver Oil, BP 1; Cold Capsules 1; Digoxin Tablets, BP 1; Dusting Powder 1; Glycerine, lemond and ipec 1; Iron and Vitamin C tablets 1; Norethustrone tablets 1; Panasol tablets 1; Syrup 1; Work Syrup 1.

Total Number of samples	301
Genuine	293
Adulterated or otherwise unsatisfactory	8

This figure of 8 includes 4 samples which were submitted as special samples resulting upon complaints by residents in the Town about food containing foreign material. The remaining 4 adulterated samples were as reported by the Public Analyst following normal sampling. Any proceedings taken as a result of adulterations will be found in the report on Magisterial Court Proceedings on page 62.

Private samples were submitted to the Public Analyst as a result of complaints and also food containing foreign material were as follows:-

A meat pie in a decomposing state; a tin of corned beef in which a bolt was embedded; a piece of solder found in a tin of Dried Skimmed Milk; a sour chocolate eclair; a piece of metal in a packet of fish fingers; fragments of a fly in a loaf of bread.

All incidents of this kind were reported to the Public Health and Housing Committee and action taken in accordance with their instructions.

The comparison with previous years is as follows:-

Year	No. of Samples taken.	Genuine.	Not Genuine
1959	307	304	3
1960	307	305	2
1961	308	307	1
1962	308	316	2
1963	323	320	3
1964	327	320	7
1965	312	311	1
1966	299	289	10
1967	317	300	17
1968	315	303	12
1969	301	293	8

Number of samples taken per 1,000 of population—Estimated 52,000	6.00
Percentage of Milks taken not conforming to standards in relation to number taken	Nil.
Percentage of Foods other than Milk not conforming to standards in relation to number taken	1.3

This latter percentage does not include the four samples which were taken as a result of private complaints.

PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS

Certain other general public health regulations such as those connected with anti-oxidants, preservatives, colouring matters, lead and arsenic emulsifiers and stabilisers were taken into consideration in the analysis of all samples, all of which complied with the regulations.

LABELLING

All the samples complied with the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order, 1953.

THE PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS, 1962 MILK AND DAIRIES (PRESERVATIVES) REGULATIONS, 1962

Milk:

All the samples of milk, condensed milk, cream and ice-cream were free from preservatives and colouring matters.

Drugs and Medicinal Preparations:

All samples of drugs were recorded as satisfactory and complied with standards as described in the British Pharmacopeia of the requirements of the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941, and were pure for pharmaceutical purposes.

The Sale of Milk Regulations

The Regulations provide that unless milk contains a minimum of 3% fat and 8.5% solids other than milk fat it shall be presumed—unless the contrary is proved—that the milk is not genuine. The average percentage composition of the whole of the milk samples in the Borough of Port Talbot in 1969 was as follows:-

	Number of Milk samples taken.	Milk fat Percentage.	Non-fatty solids— Percentage.
Home	43	3.57	8.42
Channel Isles	7	5.06	9.04

The figures for the ten previous years were as follows:-

Year	No. of milk samples examined	Milk fat percentage	Non-fatty solids— percentage
1959	40	3.77%	8.64%
1960	62	3.66%	8.65%
1961	44	3.71%	8.64%
1962	44	3.75%	8.69%
1963	65	3.73%	8.65%
1964	56	3.72%	8.60%
1965	48	3.83%	8.64%
1966	60	3.82%	8.75%
1967	57	4.72%	8.78%
1968	45	4.87%	9.07%

**THE MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959
THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963
THE MILK AND DAIRIES (CHANNEL ISLANDS AND SOUTH
DEVON MILK). REGULATIONS, 1956**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food remain responsible for duties in connection with dairy farms, and the registration of persons carrying on or proposing to engage in the business of the dairy farmer.

The Local Authority's duties are to enforce the Regulations relative to the treatment and handling of milk; the provisions regarding the infection of milk and protection against contamination, the cleansing and storage of vessels, utensils and appliances, the conveyance and distribution of milk, the registration of dairies other than dairy farms and of distributors.

The number of Licences granted for the sale of pasteurised, sterilised, and tuberculin tested milk in the Borough is 58.

All dairies and milk shops, etc., were regularly inspected throughout the year. Sampling of milk sold from wholesale and retail establishments and during delivery to various parts of the Borough was maintained. The number of samples procured, the examination undertaken, and the result of such examination were as follows:—

Milk Sampled for Bacteriological Purposes:

	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Pasteurised	15	—
C.I. Pasteurised	6	—
Sterilised	12	—
Homogenised Pasteurised	16	—
	<hr/> 49	<hr/> —

Milk Sampled for Adulteration:

Pasteurised	13	—
C.I. Pasteurised	7	—
Sterilised	12	—
Homogenised Pasteurised	17	—
	<hr/> 49	<hr/> —

In addition there are installed in various shops and/or restaurants milk dispensers for the supply of milk for consumption on the premises. We keep a careful watch on the purity of this method of supplying milk.

Milk Sample—Brucella Abortus

There were no samples for this period during the year. In consultation with the Public Analyst he felt that there had been sufficient sampling carried out in the area at processing centres.

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Ice Cream Premises 128; Fish Frying Premises 19; Sausage and Prepared Meat Premises 41.

These premises are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The following are the variety of food premises for which complete records are maintained.

CATEGORY—	No. of Premises	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Ice Cream Premises	128	128	128	116
Fish Friers Premises	19	19	19	19
Sausages and Prepared Meat Premises	41	37*	41	37
Licensed Premises & Clubs	60	60	60	60
Bakehouses	7	7	7	7
Greengrocers	11	11	—	—
Wet Fish, Fruit & Veg.	9	9	9	9
Grocers	162	158*	162	158
Catering Establishments	32	32	32	32
Butchers Premises	37	34	37	34
TOTAL	508	495	495	472

* Communal facilities provided in covered market.

Poultry Inspection

Poultry is examined in routine inspection at all retail outlets within the Borough. We have no poultry processing premises.

WATER SAMPLES

Four hundred and ninety-two samples of water were taken for bacteriological examinations during the year. This represents a carefully selected series of samples prepared in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, and those by the West Glamorgan Water Board, so that month by month a complete check is made of every source used in the Borough for drinking purposes and also for swimming purposes at our indoor baths.

Of the samples taken forty-eight were found to be unsatisfactory. Of these twelve were from unchlorinated water taken before treatment. All are summarised below:-

Before Chlorination:

River Neath	2
River Neath—Intake	3
Cwmwnderi	1
Cwmgwineu	2
Ynysgwas	2
Cwmphillip	2

After Chlorination:

Aberavon Area	6
Margam Area	6
Aberavon Area Docks	4
Bryn Area	1
Cwmavon Area	2

Swimming Pools and Paddling Pools

213 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and 207 for chemical examination. There were 16 unsatisfactory bacteriological results and these circumstances were immediately rectified.

FOOD HYGIENE

Our work during the year in the important sphere of food hygiene was conducted in a relatively quiet atmosphere. One hopes that this is a result of our attempts over the years to maintain a regular and satisfactory standard of inspection of all our food premises. It is not often that we go through a full twelve months without the necessity to prosecute for food hygiene contraventions, but it is pleasing to report that 1969 was such a year, except for the necessity to deal with the sale of a sour cream cake.

It can be seen in the Food and Drugs Section of this report that we dealt with a number of complaints in relation to foreign bodies found in foods and although the number of such complaints was about average for recent years, none of them really indicated any positive unsatisfactory conditions in relation to actual food hygiene at the place of sale.

Investigations which we made, in collaboration with the Medical Officer of Health, at a food canteen following reports of acute food poisoning met with complete co-operation by the Company concerned in every respect.

We carried out to the full the regulations dealing with the abolition of wiping cloths in the Abattoir in Port Talbot and I am able to report, with much satisfaction, that good quality paper towelling is used by the slaughtering personnel as well as, of course, the meat inspectors. It is necessary to say that we need to maintain, perhaps, a progressive pressure at all times to see that the cleanliness at the Abattoir is kept satisfactory. The compliance with the Meat (Sterilisation) Regulations, 1969 is given complete attention in all respect.

Premises in the town which, from a perusal of previous reports, will have been shown to be unsatisfactory have, of course, during the year merited of fullest attention.

Port Talbot being a seaside town as well as an industrial town has its full problems in connection with the sale of many kinds of foods, including ice cream, from stalls and vehicles and in this context we have endeavoured to see that all regulations are adhered to in the best possible way.

In anticipation of the Regulations regarding artificial sweeteners in food, which we knew were to come into operation on the 1st January, 1970 we carried out a number of exploratory inspections of food premises in the endeavour to acquaint ourselves well with the situation in Port Talbot.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING OF ICE CREAM

During the year eighteen samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these seventeen were reported upon by the Public Analyst as being satisfactory and classified Grade 1, one was classified as Grade 4.

17 samples were taken for food and drugs purposes and the examination for preservatives and bacteriological substances and in addition the Analyst reported on another eighteen in this way. All these chemical results were reported upon satisfactory. We have 6 ice cream manufacturers and 128 registered for sale of icecream. There are also a number of people selling icecream from stalls, vehicles, etc.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Daily Volumetric Readings of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide—

Monthly Readings of Deposits of Grit, Dust, Soot, Sulphur Dioxide

We continued through the year with our volumetric recording of smoke and sulphur dioxide at our five stations which are:-

- (a) Our own Department.
- (b) Groeswen Hospital, Margam.
- (c) The Pavilion, Margam.
- (d) Baglan Clinic.
- (e) Sandfields Library, Morrison Road.

In addition, as usual the British Steel Corporation continued their own recordings from their own stations and the exchange of Analyst's reports continued.

Measurements are made for grit and dust by means of the British Standard Deposit Gauge. Set out on page 48 is the tabulated statement showing the highest/lowest/average readings of smoke and sulphur dioxide from each of the five stations, and on pages 50 and 51 are the usual statistics giving the record deposits of grit, dust, soot, etc. and sulphur pollution recorded by ourselves and the British Steel Corporation.

There was no more than the occasional flare stack disturbance from the plant of B.P. Chemicals, Baglan, and generally a satisfactory standard was maintained.

DAILY RECORDING OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE

Monthly Mean Readings

(Units In Microgrammes per Cu. Centimetre)

MONTH.	STATION.	SMOKE.			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
		Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.	Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.
January—	Office	169	0	42	209	0	65
	Tollgate Park	112	0	33	40	0	ALK
	Clinic, Baglan	99	7	25	81	16	53
	Morrison Rd. Library	123	3	39	72	0	37
February—	Office	83	1	44	199	0	67
	Groeswen	67	0	33	124	0	38
	Tollgate Park	65	13	37	61	0	ALK
	Clinic, Baglan	75	2	32	110	39	74
	Morrison Rd. Library	102	6	40	75	22	42
March—	Office	96	0	44	104	27	64
	Groeswen	130	0	46	120	0	47
	Tollgate Park	108	1	37	40	0	ALK
	Clinic, Baglan	89	18	38	131	25	59
	Morrison Rd. Library	143	20	50	84	22	42
April—	Office	63	7	32	106	20	48
	Groeswen	51	12	25	98	22	49
	Tollgate Park	61	13	25	93	22	38
	Clinic, Baglan	45	2	14	137	40	56
	Morrison Rd. Library	67	3	20	72	22	43
May—	Office	77	0	30	105	33	44
	Groeswen	41	9	28	103	0	50
	Tollgate Park	52	7	21	75	25	38
	Clinic, Baglan	37	6	12	115	43	74
	Morrison Rd. Library	35	5	15	80	29	52
June—	Office	45	12	27	130	7	45
	Groeswen	47	1	22	98	0	55
	Tollgate Park	43	8	20	57	0	22
	Clinic, Baglan	26	7	14	174	87	95
	Morrison Rd. Library	35	3	13	82	36	56
July—	Office	70	8	29	108	0	52
	Groeswen	54	0	24	101	7	47
	Tollgate Park	41	9	17	58	0	23
	Clinic, Baglan	46	0	13	207	28	111
	Morrison Rd. Library	38	0	14	95	0	51
August—	Office	44	10	23	100	33	66
	Groeswen	69	7	22	100	41	56
	Tollgate Park	63	5	15	75	0	29
	Clinic, Baglan	23	1	9	173	96	140
	Morrison Rd. Library	31	7	13	169	58	84
September—	Office	50	17	28	115	48	72
	Groeswen	43	2	31	109	33	68
	Tollgate Park	41	1	18	104	26	51
	Clinic, Baglan	22	3	10	184	96	126
	Morrison Rd. Library	37	5	15	111	38	71
October—	Office	63	11	29	120	48	71
	Groeswen	78	8	33	111	34	60
	Tollgate Park	58	3	18	69	26	40
	Clinic, Baglan	47	8	16	157	1	123
	Morrison Rd. Library	58	8	25	97	57	68
November—	Office	110	16	33	177	28	66
	Groeswen	105	0	31	174	0	67
	Tollgate Park	99	0	19	84	0	37
	Clinic, Baglan	90	0	18	136	18	57
	Morrison Rd. Library	Insufficient Air For Readings					
December—	Office	138	0	46	123	0	50
	Groeswen	269	36	66	362	0	67
	Tollgate Park	92	10	34	88	0	75
	Clinic, Baglan	76	11	34	148	47	75
	Morrison Rd. Library	Insufficient Air For Readings					

INSTALLATION AND PRIOR APPROVAL OF NEW FURNACES

Section 3 Clean Air Act 1956 requires all new furnaces (except domestic ones) to be capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a kind for which they are designed.

Notification to the Local Authority is also necessary when it is intended to install a furnace exceeding an output of 55,000 b.t.u's per hour.

The following notices of intention to install apparatus were received from:-

1. St. Therese Church and Presbytery, Sandfields.
2. Messrs. Courtney Bros. (South Wales Ltd.), 34 Castle Street, Caerphilly. (Aberbaiden disused colliery).
3. St. Mary's Church, Aberavon.
4. Johnsons (Closures) Ltd., Port Talbot.
5. Cramic Engineering Co. Ltd., Port Talbot.
6. Office Block, Llewellyn's Quay, Port Talbot.

CONTROL OF CHIMNEY HEIGHTS

The Heights of Chimneys has now been transferred from the Clean Air Act, 1956 to the Clean Air (Height of Chimneys) Regulations, 1969. All applications must now be made on the prescribed form issued by the Council.

ALKALI WORKS

The following local works and processes are under the control of the Alkali Inspectorate under the provisions of the Alkali, etc., Works Order.

Name of Firm:	Work or Processes Registered:
British Steel Corporation	Sulphate of Ammonia, Benzene, Gas and Coke, Iron and Steel, (Blast Furnaces) Sinter Plant, Open Hearth Furnaces, Bessemer Furnaces, Oxygen.
Wales Gas Board	Gas and Coke.
The Distillers Company Limited	Lime.
Metallurgical Chemists Ltd.	Paraffin, Oil, Hydrochloric Acid.
B.P. (Chemicals) Ltd.	Paraffin, Oil, Chlorine.

It is nice to be able to say yet again that Mr. J. C. Peabody the District Alkali Inspector has shown himself to be admirable in his sense of co-operation with us in matters relating to atmospheric pollution.

RECORDS OF DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per sq. mile)

Month.	TAIBACH						
	1963.	1964.	1965.	1966.	1967.	1968.	1969.
January	6.09	17.69	79.30	x	42.50	49.29	69.90
February	4.31	14.34	3.83	68.78	53.52	26.68	21.28
March	53.83	22.01	46.07	63.92	57.07	37.39	12.48
April	53.04	51.37	57.25	47.88	32.58	25.80	39.10
May	53.49	82.78†	55.40	94.55	80.74	34.41	56.16
June	*	74.36‡	102.77	33.02	33.50	59.80	28.20
July	40.45		57.25	38.68	64.16	29.14	18.30
August	59.44	40.19	34.66	47.15	35.10	40.46	22.77
September	36.24	46.19	22.93	53.07	56.00	43.47	23.10
October	40.76	49.86	33.53	49.92	115.32	48.9	25.74
November	**	59.86	38.91	50.57	36.60	17.98	46.44
December	14.79	90.93	140.03	73.60	56.73	30.30	30.14
TOTAL	362.44	549.98	671.93	618.14	663.82	443.71	393.61

* Bottle tampered with. x Bottle stolen.

** No result—bottle blown over in wind.

† 1st May—11th June. ‡ 12th June—31st July.

DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per square mile).

Records supplied by the Steel Company of Wales.

STATIONS.

MONTH	THOMAS BROS.			BAGLAN HALL			COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION		
	1966	1967	1968	1969	1966	1967	1968	1969	
January	29.34	23.68	14.36	18.16	21.72	12.15	*	8.31	
February	39.44	18.52	12.96	6.29	15.36	12.75	4.13	3.84	
March	16.42	15.72	27.77	15.02	7.33	4.85	12.93	5.45	
April	19.56	11.04	7.48	16.76	10.06	24.06	10.48	8.90	
May	8.13	29.68	*	20.61	9.22	37.37	*	*	
June	16.80	7.68	20.33	11.66	18.99	4.19	32.72	12.58	
July	22.35	20.96	11.64	13.97	13.97	22.03	10.40	5.94	
August	13.10	26.19	*	34.93	6.81	10.65	*	46.96	
September	20.57	46.11	41.22	11.17	15.55	*	24.45	5.76	
October	18.76	33.88	12.23	12.92	10.47	6.67	7.26	3.50	
November	26.30	20.57	6.98	*	21.48	12.26	4.19	†	
December	33.50	19.35	7.33	22.71	23.92	14.01	6.11	8.35	
TOTAL	264.27	273.27	162.30	184.20	174.89	160.99	112.67	109.59	
					423.79	427.12	340.71	300.06	

* No sample—funnel accidentally removed, or bottle broken.

† November and December one combined reading.

*** Bottle broken.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Sulphur Pollution Records as Supplied by Steel Company of Wales.
(Estimation by lead peroxide)

STATIONS.

MONTH	THOMAS BROS.		COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION		BAGLAN HALL, PORT TALBOT	
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
January	3.41	1.41	1.47	2.22	0.47	0.42
February	2.84	2.16	2.08	1.68	1.69	0.69
March	1.77	1.50	1.93	1.51	0.62	0.49
April	2.60	1.72	1.24	1.09	0.45	0.63
May	2.65	*	1.20	*	0.19	*
June	0.59	0.62	1.00	1.03	0.22	0.25
July	0.45	0.75	0.87	0.81	0.14	0.23
August	0.60	*	1.35	*	0.18	*
September	1.59	1.31	1.21	1.31	0.19	0.26
October	1.48	2.55	2.24	1.60	0.27	0.29
November	1.52	3.15	1.62	2.12	0.43	0.54
December	1.43	2.08	1.43	2.93	0.41	0.61
TOTAL	17.80	17.25	17.64	16.30	5.45	4.41
						5.13

* No result, sample spoiled. † Combined reading for November and December.

PORT TALBOT RAINFALL
(Rainfall in inches)

Month.	GROES.						
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
January	0.51	0.80	4.93	2.84	3.38	*	0.21
February	1.97	1.86	0.07	4.88	4.97	1.51	1.77
March	5.42	3.42	3.17	2.34	1.97	2.49	2.76
April	3.98	2.07	2.94	5.93	1.26	2.47	2.13
May	2.04	2.60	3.12	3.43	6.14	3.21	4.61
June	2.62	2.01	4.07	3.57	0.96	4.81	2.72
July	2.31	3.25	4.62	2.13	4.30	*	2.63
August	5.06	2.76	2.08	4.01		2.51	4.10
September	2.51	1.74	3.66	2.00	8.20	5.85	2.11
October	2.35	4.28	1.31	4.55	9.43	5.60	0.97
November	9.73	3.01	4.85	2.96	2.29	3.33	5.41
December	1.53	5.76	11.12	5.63	4.79	3.56	3.66
TOTAL	40.03	33.56	45.94	44.27	47.69	41.68	33.08

Month.	REGENT, TAIBACH						
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
January	0.31	0.85	4.87	*	2.81	3.95	6.14
February	0.32	1.36	0.03	4.80	4.64	1.29	0.95
March	4.90	3.05	2.33	1.97	3.18	1.31	2.52
April	3.83	1.98	2.66	4.87	1.06	2.32	1.85
May	1.76	3.32†	3.25	4.30	8.38	3.15	4.40
June	*	3.34‡	3.81	2.28	1.27	4.76	2.56
July	2.14		3.76	2.30	3.93	3.69	2.35
August	5.21	2.27	2.27	3.25	2.49	3.06	2.05
September	2.53	1.63	2.30	1.43	5.35	4.59	2.07
October	2.00	4.46	0.74	5.87	6.36	4.57	1.06
November	*	3.36	4.15	3.03	2.27	2.96	6.22
December	1.39	5.90	6.82	5.25	4.47	3.23	4.00
TOTAL	24.39	31.52	37.19	39.35	46.21	38.89	36.17

* Bottle broken or stolen. † 1st May—11th June. ‡ 12th June—31st July.

PORT TALBOT SUNSHINE
(Sunshine in hours)

Month.	GROES.						
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
January	86.1	35.1	65.9	34.1	56.4	*	35.1
February	97.6	45.8	50.6	35.1	99.9	99.8	72.3
March	107.1	94.5	136.2	118.7	136.7	138.8	105.6
April	126.5	120.8	173.1	123.4	141.5	147.0	198.4
May	161.4	134.8	155.1	226.2	149.5	148.2	155.8
June	179.2	109.4	155.7	161.5	188.2	174.8	160.0
July	147.2	131.6	131.4	181.9	180.9	*	171.4
August	127.2	155.5	192.0	187.7	*	163.2	169.0
September	117.6	149.3	113.8	163.6	142.8	136.1	101.2
October	60.3	95.5	139.7	116.3	68.1	47.3	120.5
November	57.2	74.6	84.2	72.4	97.7	60.7	138.3
December	60.1	46.8	61.4	43.3	58.3	48.5	55.2
TOTAL	1327.5	1193.7	1469.1	1464.2	1320.0	1164.4	1482.8

* No Result

The following list indicates those chimney stacks in the Borough which still come under our own supervision and those coming within the control of the Alkali Inspectorate:—

No.	DESCRIPTION		Ground. Height above	
			Ft.	Ins.
LOCAL AUTHORITY.	(1 Margam "A" Power House	— 5 Chimneys	105	0
	(2A Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	120	9
	(2B Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	230	0
	(3 Abbey Soaking Pits	— 12 Chimneys	100	0
	(Abbey Soaking Pits	— 7 Chimneys	161	1½
	(Abbey A, B & C Soaking Pits	— 3 Recuperators	136	0
	(4 Abbey Slab Reheating Furnaces	— 5 Recuperators	136	3½
	(5 Abbey Annealing Furnaces	— 9 Chimneys (Ducts)	80	0
	(6A Abbey Services Boiler House	— 1 Chimney	157	10
	(6B Abbey Services Boiler House	— 1 Chimney	220	0
	(42 Vacuum Degassing Boiler	— 1 Chimney	120	0
	MARGAM:			
	(8 No. 1 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 Uptakes	192	8½
	(9 No. 2 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	223	11
	(10 No. 3 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	223	11
ALKALI INSPECTORATE.	(11 No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	251	5
	(12 No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	253	6½
	(13 No. 1 Blast Furnace	— 1 Chimney (Stove)	203	6
	(14 No. 2 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(15 No. 3 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(16 No. 4 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(17 No. 5 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(18 No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 Chimneys	240	9
	(19 No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 " "	242	0
	(20A Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 Chimney	114	6
	(20B Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 Chimney	64	9
	(21 Coke Ovens No. 2 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(22 Coke Ovens No. 3 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(23 Coke Ovens No. 4 Battery	— 1 "	257	6
	(24 Coke Ovens No. 5 Battery	— 1 "	235	8
	(25 Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack (new)	— 3 Chimneys	210	0
	(26 Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack (old)	— 1 Chimney	85	0
	(27A Sinter Plant	— 1 "	279	8½
	(27B Sinter Plant	— 1 "	278	10½
	(28 Sinter Strand	— 4 Chimneys	121	9
	(29 Sinter Strand	— 4 "	103	4½
	(30 Sinter Strand	— 4 "	85	7½
	(31 E.P. Plant	— 1 Chimney	120	0
	(32 Attritor House	— 1 "	75	8
	(33 Sludge Filtration Plant	— 1 "	56	0
	ABBAY:			
	(34 Melting Shop	— 12 Chimneys * (4)	151	6½
	(35 Dust Precip. Plants (Maerz Furn. P.R.S.T.)	— 2 Chimneys	220	3
	(36 No. 6 Coke Oven Battery	— 1 Chimney	259	1
	(37 Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack	— 3 Chimneys	150	10
	(38 Slab Deseamer (Scarfer)	— 1 Chimney	58	6
	(39 B.O.S. Plant	— 2 Waste Gas Uptakes	246	0
	(40 Fume Exhaust	— 4 Waste Gas Uptakes	100	0
	(41 B.O.S. Secondary Vent. Duct.	— 1 Waste Gas Uptake	58	3
		(96 ft. 11 ins. Future)		
	(7 Acid Recovery Plant	— 2 Chimneys	120	0

* Not in Normal Use.

FACTORIES

The activities of your Chief Public Health Inspector's Department in relation to those duties imposed upon this Council by the Factory Acts of 1937/61 were as follows:—

1.—Inspection of Factories.

Premises on Register (1)	Inspection (2)	Number of written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
180	125	5	—

2.—Particulars Found in Factories.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				Referred		Cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	17	14	—	—	—	
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	6	5	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	
Accumulation	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—						
(a) Insufficient	5	5	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	—	—	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes	3	3	—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating outworkers)	1	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL	35	29	—	—	—	

RODENT CONTROL

There is some little increase in the activities of the Department in rodent control. This can of course be expected with the extra staff appointed last year, engaged on the work. Not so much, in any significant increase in the number of complaints, as in the amount of rodent work which the staff can now perform, and this will progressively increase, it is hoped.

We remain concerned that the continued infestation at refuse tips, etc., and with the continuing movement of rats due to the filling in of the Baglan Moors. We must still plea very strongly against the unsanitary habits of people who will persist in indiscriminate tipping of rubbish, in all kinds of places. This practice, quite apart from being so unsightly keeps the Department constantly engaged in the ensuing rodent infestation.

Rats 655; Mice 108; Total 763.
742 premises were treated in the area.

ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

Properties other than Sewers.	Type of Property.	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural.
1. Number of properties in district	18,801	59
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	742	—
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	622	33
(ii) Mice	108	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	410	10
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	101	8
(ii) Mice	48	—
Sewers.		
4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year? Yes.		

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food a percentage of our sewer manholes are treated twice annually. Brief particulars of both treatments during the year are as follows:—

Number of manholes treated	382
Number showing Bait taken	110
Bait used: Warfarin.	

During the year we purchased from Bruel and Kjaer a Precision Sound Level Meter in order that our investigations of noise circumstances in the Borough be pursued in a far more detailed manner than heretofor.

Our investigations so far have taken us into the Baglan Area where we have been able to examine circumstances in relation to noise conditions at B.P. Chemicals and detailed examinations has also been made of the circumstances of noise emanating from recorded music at the Aberavon Fun Fair, etc.

Total number of complaints received	17
Total number investigated	17

Number of nuisances confirmed	4	6	—	10
informally	3	5	—	8
Number of Abatement orders				
under Section 1	—	—	—	—
Number of nuisance orders				
under Section 1	—	—	—	—

Causes of complaint were:-

- (a) Industrial Fans
- (b) Machinery vibration
- (c) Permanent Fun Fair
Recorded Music

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

Three new registrations were made in the year for Scrap Merchants. This brings the total on our register to 15, 4 in respect of itinerant collectors and eleven for dealers operating from permanent premises.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Two licences, the same as issued in former years, were issued in 1969. The conditions were quite satisfactory.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1964

Our three riding establishments were re-licenced in the year. Our consultant veterinary surgeon examined them on our behalf and found them all to be satisfactory and well conducted.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

We continue to have no common lodging houses in the Borough.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

We renewed the applications for the two offensive trades which have existed in the Borough for some years. They refer to one rag and bone collector and a fat melter and abstractor.

LAND CHARGES ACT, 1925

Four hundred and ninety-four enquiries were received from the Town Clerk as a result of applications made under the Land Charges Act, 1925.

RENT ACT, 1957

RENT, RESTRICTIONS REGULATIONS 1957

No applications for certificates under these Regulations were received during the year.

CINEMA INSPECTIONS

There are now only two cinemas in the town. The advent of Bingo over the years has caused a decrease to this number. The two cinemas were inspected in the usual manner and they were all re-licensed subject to certain matters of repair and decoration, as well as fire precautionary measures carried out.

INSPECTIONS OF COUNCIL HOUSES

Three hundred and forty-seven visits and inspections were made to council houses on application by tenants to exchange houses, or as a result of their termination of tenancy. Of these inspections three were found to be not satisfactory for re-occupation before work of cleansing or disinfection was carried out.

Where repairs are necessary, these are carried out by the Property Repairs section of the Borough Surveyor's Department. We continue our work of causing houses to be disinfested because of verminous conditions as and when found necessary. Our practice is to try, in the initial stages, to help people by advice and by a free treatment of disinfection. Three dirty or verminous cases were dealt with during the year.

HOUSING ACT 1957

During the year the department continued its work in the field of sub-standard housing. Although the actual figures of houses either closed or demolished show a decrease in the previous year, a number of area surveys were carried out. The results added considerably to the knowledge already in the department of typical housing conditions outlined in Part III of the Housing Act, 1957.

Of necessity i.e., because of Council's building programme in the area, the main sites of inspections have been in Cwmavon. However, the department was also involved in inspections in the Aberavon area, and reports were made on approximately 200 houses and other properties.

For the record the numbers of orders made under Part II and Part III of the Housing Act, 1957, are as follows:-

Individual Unfit Houses (Part II, Housing Act, 1957)

(a) Closing orders	7
(b) Closing orders part of building	1
(c) Demolition orders	1

Clearance Areas (Part III, Housing Act 1957)

(a) Borough of Port Talbot (Ynysafan Row, Cwmavon) Clearance Area, Compulsory Purchase Order 1969

This Compulsory Purchase Order was made on the 23rd April, 1969. It included the seven unfit houses which make up Ynysafan Row, Cwmavon and a strip of land between the houses and the river Afan which was included as "grey land" i.e. land included to make the area of a suitable size and shape for proper redevelopment.

There was one objection to the Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the dwelling house known as No. 4 Ynysafan Row, Cwmavon. The Minister of State for Welsh Affairs has arranged for a Public Inquiry to be held on the 6th July, 1970.

(b) Borough of Port Talbot (Carmel Place, Aberavon) Clearance Area Compulsory Purchase Order 1969

This Compulsory Purchase Order was made on the 17th December, 1969. It included the five unfit dwellings in Carmel Place (Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7), 2 lock up shops, a cafe, a public house, and two other dwellings attached to the cafe and public house respectively. There has been no objection lodged against the Compulsory Purchase Order, and the decision of the Secretary of State for Wales is awaited.

(c) Borough of Port Talbot (Cornish Row, Cwmavon) Clearance Area No. 3 Compulsory Purchase Order 1968.

Following the one objection to the Compulsory Purchase Order, a Public Inquiry was held on the 16th December, 1968, last. The Secretary of State for Wales approved the order on the 13th June, 1969, but with modifications. He agreed that No. 6 Cornish Row would stay in the Compulsory Purchase Order but that it would be classed as a fit house. He excluded the dwelling house known as No. 8 Cornish Row and the land attached to it as he agreed with the owner's appeal that the land could be developed by him. At the same time the Secretary of State accepted that No. 8 Cornish Row was an unfit dwelling.

(d) Borough of Port Talbot (Tymaen Street) Cwmavon Clearance Area No. 4 Compulsory Purchase Order 1969.

There were 26 objections to the Compulsory Purchase Order made on the 18th December, 1968 last. The Public Inquiry was held on the 11th November, 1969. The result is still awaited.

STAFF

Miss Carole Francis, Shorthand Typist left the department on the 26th May, 1969, to take up appointment in London and her place was filled very effectively by Miss Elaine Pearson who commenced duty with us on the 27th May.

Miss K. Scruton, Pupil Public Health Inspector left the department on the 30th November, 1969, having completed her pupillage. Her place as a pupil public health inspector was taken by Mr. Martin Murphy who commenced his duties in the department on the 12th September.

**DIPLOMA EXAMINATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
JOINT EXAMINATION BOARD**

In the first term of the new scholastic year at the Cardiff Technical College, which commenced in September, 1969, the college authorities put into practice a new system of block release for the students studying for the diploma examination of the Public Health Inspectors Joint Board Examination. The previous system had been for the students, during each term, to attend the college for two days and to be in my department for the remainder of the time. The three students, therefore, have experienced the new system of block release for the first time, and it will only be in

the light of experience whether or not the change is to be successful. It represents material difference in the life of the students, as it is now necessary for them to go into lodgings for six weeks, and this is not bound to have the same effect on every pupil. The results, of course, will be the justification or not of the new system.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT REPORT, 1969

Registration:

During 1969 eleven new registrations of premises were received. These were as a result of routine inspections being carried out under various duties of the inspectorate and it was also found necessary to re-classify a number of premises. Two premises previously registered were closed and subsequently taken off the list. The following table indicates the number of registered premises, as on the 31st December, 1969, with the comparison figures for the years 1966, 1967 and 1968.

	1966	1967	1968	1969
Offices	171	171	177	182
Retail Shops	415	396	406	411
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	9	9	11	12
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens	18	39	40	40
Totals	613	615	634	645

The number of persons employed under the various categories of registered premises are as follows:-

	1967	1968	1969
Offices	981	997	1,003
Retail Shops	1,418	1,442	1,454
Wholesale	111	116	117
Catering	445	450	450
Canteens (* Note A)	7	8	8
Females	1,947	1,980	1,975
Males	1,015	1,033	1,057

*NOTE A—Factory canteens are not included in this figure, as the regulations so far as these premises are concerned, come under the jurisdiction of the Factory Inspector.

Initial inspections of premises continued throughout the year as did considerable numbers of re-inspections. Two hundred and eighteen contraventions were noted which necessitated the service of notices which are analysed in the following table:-

Sec. 4. Failure to keep premises clean	33
Sec. 6. Failure to provide thermometers	39
Sec. 6. Inadequate means of heating	7
Sec. 6. Failure to display Abstract of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	41
Sec. 7. Rooms not effectively ventilated	12
Sec. 8. Failure to provide suitable and sufficient lighting:	
(a) Rooms	13
Corridors/Staircases	4

Sec. 9.	Failure to provide sufficient sanitary accommodation	1
Sec. 10	Failure to provide sufficient washing facilities	16
Sec. 16	Failure to maintain floors and floor covering in good repair:-	
	Rooms	10
	Ceilings	1
Sec. 16	Corridors obstructed by stock, goods, etc.	6
Sec. 16	Failure to provide handrails	3
Sec. 24	Failure to provide First Aid Box	26
Sec. 16	Keep yard clear of accumulations	3

Following up notices previously sent shows the following completed:-

Sec. 4.	Cleanliness	58
Sec. 5.	Overcrowding	—
Sec. 6.	(a) Reasonable temperature	5
	(b) Provision of thermometer	70
Sec. 7.	Provision of adequate ventilation	7
Sec. 8.	Lighting:	
	(a) Rooms	9
	(b) Staircases	4
	(c) Cleaning of windows	15
	(d) Repairs to glazing	21
Sec. 9.	(a) Provision of separate sanitary accommodation	2
	(b) Cleanliness	13
	(c) Adequate ventilation	5
	(d) Obstructions removed	20
Sec. 10.	(a) Washing facilities	6
	(b) Hot water	16
	Fixtures repaired	10
Sec. 12	Accommodation for clothing	7
Sec. 16	Floors and floor covering	27
	Removal of obstructions	28
	Repairs to staircases	6
	Handrails	5
	First Aid Boxes	66
	Abstract of Act provided	69

All new plans submitted to the Authority and subject to the Act are scrutinised and where necessary the developer has been informed should attention be required to conform with the Act.

Accidents:

During the year eight accidents were received. Of these six required investigation. Following the investigations work was required to be carried out in four premises in order to obviate similar accidents, and in one case proceedings were instituted under Section 16 (1) 63 and 64 of the Act. The case was disallowed, the defence stating that although the first floor rooms were vacant, they were open for letting and therefore the staircase was for joint use and the responsibility of the owner and not the occupier.

Detailed Analysis of Accidents is as follows:-

ACCIDENTS	CLASS OF PREMISES			TOTAL
	Office.	Shop.	Catering Establishment open to the Public.	
1. No. of accidents reported	1	5	2	8
2. No. of accidents investigated	1	5	1	7
3. Action Taken:				
(a) Advice given	—	4	—	4
(b) No action	—	—	—	—
4. Causation:				
(a) Non power driven machinery	—	1	—	1
(b) Power driven machinery	—	1	—	1
(c) Handling goods	—	1	—	1
(d) Struck by falling object	—	2	—	2
(e) Falls from one level to another	—	—	1	1
(f) Fall on same level	—	—	1	1
(g) Fall on or from fixed stairs	1	—	—	1
5. Injuries sustained:				
(a) Bruising	1	3	1	5
(b) Open Wounds	—	1	—	1
(c) Burns	—	—	—	—
(d) Sprains and Strains	—	1	—	1
(e) Fractures	1	—	—	1

MAGISTERIAL COURT PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings were taken before the Magistrates on the following cases:-

- A wholesale society in respect of a piece of solder in a tin of Dried Skimmed Milk. Found guilty and fined £15 with £3 costs.
- The proprietors of a Betting Shop following an accident on the premises. The Magistrates held against the Corporation.
- A meat pie firm in respect of a meat pie in a decomposing state. Found guilty and fined £15 with £5/5/0 costs.
- Corned Beef Importers regarding a 12 oz. tin "Helmet" corned beef in which a bolt was found embedded. Found guilty and fined £20 with £5 costs.
- A bakery firm regarding fragments of a fly in a loaf of bread. Found guilty and fined £10 with £4/4/0 costs.
- The manufacturers of fish fingers in respect of a piece of metal in a packet of Fish fingers. Found guilty and fined £20 with £5 costs.
- A grocer in respect of a sour chocolate eclair. Found guilty and fined £5.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following gives a short account of the more important legislation which came on the Statute Book during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1969

This Act received the Royal Assent on July 25th and came into force on the 25th August. This new legislation was welcomed very much by Local Authorities in that it provided much needed improvements in the compensation provisions relating to unfit houses as a result of closure procedure, demolitions orders or clearance orders. Better improvement grants were provided, and the legal standard of fitness was slightly amended. The purpose of the Act was twofold in that whilst encouraging the improvement of older houses there was no intention to curb the rate of clearance of unfit houses, and indeed the Ministry encouraged Local Authorities to move on with speed its rate of the clearance of unfit areas.

PUBLIC HEALTH (RECURRING NUISANCES) ACT, 1969

The very useful piece of legislation received the Royal Assent on the 25th June, 1969 and came into operation on the 25th July.

The Act provides Local Authorities in England and Wales with more effective powers to deal with statutory nuisances which have abated, but are likely to recur on the same premises. Thus a Local Authority will be able to take action to prevent a recurrence of a nuisance even when for the time being, the nuisance has ceased. The Act therefore provides for a Prohibition Notice under Section 1 to be served where the Local Authority are satisfied that a statutory nuisance has occurred and is likely to recur on the same premises. Such a Notice can be served whether or not the nuisance exists at the time of service and whether or not an Abatement Notice has been served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936. We found this legislation useful in one or two matters of nuisance which worry the department by their ability to recur.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1968

The Clean Air (Arrestment Plant) (Exemption) Regulations 1969

The date of operation of these regulations was 1st October, 1969.

Section 3 (i) of the Clean Air Act, 1968 requires that certain new furnaces shall be provided with plant approved by the Local Authority for arresting grit and dust. Section 4 (1) of the Act empowers the Minister of Housing and Local Government to exempt prescribed classes of furnaces shall be provided with plant approved by the Local Authority for The Regulations prescribe such classes and purposes. Applications may also be made to the Local Authority under Section 4 (2) of the Act for the exemption of individual furnaces from the requirements of Section 3 (1).

The Clean Air (Emission of Dark Smoke) (Exemption) Regulations, 1969

The date of operation of these Regulations was the 1st October, 1969. Under Section 1 (1) of the Clean Air Act, 1968, it is an offence to emit dark smoke from industrial or trade premises; but Regulations may exempt subject to conditions, the emission of dark smoke caused by the burning of any prescribed matter. These Regulations prescribe matters which are to be exempt and conditions applicable to each. The matters thus exempted include certain waste resultant from demolition or site clearance, explosives, ground and other surfaces, animal and poultry carcasses, and containers used for pesticides and certain toxic substances.

The Clean Air (Height of Chimneys) (Exemption) Regulations 1969

These Regulations were laid before Parliament on the 27th March, 1969 and came into operation on the 1st April, 1969. Under Section 6 (2) of the Clean Air Act, 1968, a person having possession of a boiler or industrial plant attached to a building or for the time being fixed to or installed on any land (other than an exempted boiler or plant) is required to obtain the approval of the Local Authority to the height of the chimney if he proposes to construct a new chimney or to enlarge the furnace. By Section 6 (11), exempted boilers and plant mean those used or to be used wholly for any purpose prescribed by Regulations; and these Regulations prescribe the Purposes which carry exemption. They include a temporary or local provision of heat or power during replacement or maintenance, building operations, engineering construction, investigation or research, and agricultural operations.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The Soft Drinks (Amendment) Regulations, 1969

These Regulations came into operation on the 1st January, 1970 having been laid before Parliament on the 30th December, 1969.

They

- a. Amend the definition of "permitted artificial sweetener" in the Principal Regulations so that saccharin calcium and saccharin sodium (as defined in the schedule to the Regulations) are the only permitted artificial sweeteners;
- b. Amend the requirements in Regulation 12 of the Principal Regulations as to declarations on the sale of soft drinks in or from vending machines;
- c. Make changes in the forms of expressions, specified in Regulation 13 of the Principal Regulations, for labels of containers of soft drinks containing any permitted artificial sweetener;
- d. Amend the specification for saccharin, saccharin calcium and saccharin sodium in schedule 1 to the Principal Regulations.

The Artificial Sweeteners in Food Regulations 1969

These Regulations also came into operation on the 1st January, 1970 having been laid before Parliament on the 30th December, 1969. These Regulations, which apply to England and Wales only, supercede the Artificial Sweeteners in Food Regulations, 1967.

The principle change is that cyclamine acid, calcium cyclamate and sodium cyclamate are no longer permitted artificial sweeteners or permitted ingredients in artificial sweetening tablets.

Canned Meat Product Regulations, 1967

These Regulations although dated the 31st May, 1967, came into operation on the 31st May, 1969. The Regulations:-

- a. specify requirements for the composition of canned meat products including requirements for complete meat products used as ingredients of canned meat products;
- b. specify requirements for the labelling and description of canned meat products and for the advertising of such products;
- c. amend schedule 1 of the labelling of Food Order, 1953.

The Sausage and Other Meat Product Regulations, 1967

In the same way although these Regulations were made in 1967 they came into operation on the 31st May, 1969.

They:-

- a. specify requirements for the composition of meat products including sausages and requirements for complete meat products such as ingredients of other meat products;
- b. specify requirements for the labelling, description and advertisement of meat products.

The Food (Control of Irradiation) (Amendment) Regulations, 1969

These regulations came into operation on the 1st December, 1969. The Food (Control of Irradiation) Regulations of 1967 prohibits, subject to one exception, the application of ionising radiation to food intended for sale for human consumption. These new regulations of 1969 make a further exception, to permit the irradiation of food for patients who are certified by a registered Medical Practitioner to require a sterile diet as an essential factor in their treatment.

The Meat (Sterilization) Regulation 1969

These regulations came into operation on the 1st November, 1969. They superseded the Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations, 1960 as amended. They require all knacker meat and meat (other than the meat of a rabbit or hare) which is imported otherwise for human consumption, as well as all butchers meat or imported meat which in either case is unfit for human consumption, to be sterilized before entering the chain of distribution. They also require that imported meat which is unfit for human consumption or imported otherwise than for human consumption and without an official certificate or meat inspection stamp and which is stored in or removed from the port of entry shall be sterilized or shall bear a notice to the effect that the meat is not fit for human consumption.

Provision is made whereby zoos, etc., may obtain such meat and sterilized if it is transported in locked containers or vehicles. Supplies of meat to hospitals, medical or veterinary schools or similar institutions for instructional or diagnostic purposes and to manufacturing chemist for the manufacture of pharmaceutical products are unaffected by the regulations.

1970

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